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Fifty-sixth session
Third Committee
Agenda item 119 (b)
Human rights questions: Human rights questions, including alternative approaches for improving the effective enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms

Burundi, Cameroon and the Democratic Republic of the Congo: draft resolution

Subregional Centre for Human Rights and Democracy in Central Africa

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 55/105 of 4 December 2000 concerning regional arrangements for the promotion and protection of human rights,

Recalling also its resolutions 55/34 B of 20 November 2000 and 55/233 of 23 December 2000 and section III of its resolution 55/234 of 23 December 2000, in which it requested the Secretary-General to ensure that the projects funded during the biennium 2000-2001 would also be funded during the biennium 2002-2003,

Recalling further the report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights,[1]

1. *Welcomes* the creation of the Subregional Centre for Human Rights and Democracy in Central Africa at Yaoundé;

2. *Notes with satisfaction* the support given to the establishment of the Centre by the host country;

3. *Invites* the Secretary-General and the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to take all necessary measures to ensure the smooth functioning of the Centre in accordance with section III of its resolution 55/234;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to it at its fifty-seventh session a report on the implementation of this resolution.

[1] A/56/36/Add.10.

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Agenda item 119 (b)
Human rights questions: human rights questions, including alternative approaches for improving the effective enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms

Angola, Benin, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Equatorial Guinea, Gabon, Gambia, Haiti, Madagascar, Sao Tome and Principe and Senegal: draft resolution

Subregional Centre for Human Rights and Democracy in Central Africa

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 55/105 of 4 December 2000 concerning regional arrangements for the promotion and protection of human rights,

Recalling also its resolutions 55/34 B of 20 November 2000 and 55/233 of 23 December 2000 and section III of its resolution 55/234 of 23 December 2000,

Recalling further the report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights,[1]

1. *Welcomes* the creation of the Subregional Centre for Human Rights and Democracy in Central Africa at Yaoundé;

2. *Notes with satisfaction* the support given to the establishment of the Centre by the host country;

3. *Invites* the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, under the direction of the Secretary-General, to provide appropriate assistance to the Centre to ensure its efficiency and smooth functioning in accordance with section III of its resolution 55/234;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to it at its fifty-seventh session a report on the implementation of the present resolution.

[1] A/56/36/Add.10.

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Fifty-sixth session
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Agenda item 114
Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, questions relating to refugees, returnees and displaced persons and humanitarian questions

Armenia, Belarus, Canada, Georgia, Greece, Hungary, Japan, Russian Federation, Spain, Tajikistan, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and United States of America: draft resolution

Follow-up to the Regional Conference to Address the Problems of Refugees, Displaced Persons, Other Forms of Involuntary Displacement and Returnees in the Countries of the Commonwealth of Independent States and Relevant Neighbouring States

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 48/113 of 20 December 1993, 49/173 of 23 December 1994, 50/151 of 21 December 1995, 51/170 of 12 December 1996, 52/102 of 12 December 1997, 53/123 of 9 December 1998 and, in particular, 54/144 of 17 December 1999,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General,[1]

Having considered the report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees,[2]

Reaffirming the importance and continuing validity of the Programme of Action adopted in 1996 by the Regional Conference to Address the Problems of Refugees, Displaced Persons, Other Forms of Involuntary Displacement and Returnees in the Countries of the Commonwealth of Independent States and Relevant Neighbouring States,[3] as a basic guiding tool for future activities,

[1] A/55/472.
[2] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 12* (A/56/12).
[3] A/51/341 and Corr.1, appendix.

01-65017 (E) 231101

Recognizing the ongoing acuteness of the migration and displacement problems in the countries of the Commonwealth of Independent States and the necessity to follow up the Conference,

Recalling the decision of the steering group of the Conference at its fifth meeting to continue activities in the process entitled "Follow-up to the 1996 Geneva Conference on the Problems of Refugees, Displaced Persons, Migration and Asylum Issues" for a period of five years,

Welcoming the work plan for the thematic issues, prepared jointly by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, the International Organization for Migration, the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe and the Council of Europe in accordance with the recommendations adopted by the steering group at its fifth meeting,

Welcoming also the convening of the first expert meeting within the framework of the newly launched thematic process on citizenship and statelessness, held at Kiev from 11 to 13 December 2000, as well as international efforts aimed at improving migration and border management, with due respect to refugee protection matters, and encouraging all lead agencies to continue to implement the work plan,

Reaffirming the view of the Conference that the primary responsibility for tackling population displacement problems lies with the affected countries themselves and that these issues are to be regarded as national priorities, while at the same time recognizing the need for enhancing international support for the national efforts of the countries of the Commonwealth of Independent States aimed at the effective implementation of such responsibilities within the framework of the Programme of Action adopted by the Conference,[3]

Noting with satisfaction the efforts of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, the International Organization for Migration and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe in developing strategies and practical tools for more effective capacity-building in countries of origin and enhancing programmes to address the needs of various categories of concern to the countries of the Commonwealth of Independent States,

Taking note of positive results emanating from the implementation of the Programme of Action adopted by the Conference,

Convinced of the necessity of further strengthening practical measures and of continuing to maintain the regional approach for the achievement of effective implementation of the Programme of Action,

Recalling that the protection and promotion of human rights and the strengthening of democratic institutions are essential to prevent mass population displacement,

Mindful that adherence to the principles and the recommendations contained in the Programme of Action should be facilitated and can be ensured only through cooperation and coordinated activities undertaken in this respect by all interested States, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and other actors,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees;[2]

2. *Calls upon* the Governments of the countries of the Commonwealth of Independent States, in cooperation with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, the International Organization for Migration and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, to strengthen their efforts and mutual cooperation relating to the follow-up to the Regional Conference to Address the Problems of Refugees, Displaced Persons, Other Forms of Involuntary Displacement and Returnees in the Countries of the Commonwealth of Independent States and Relevant Neighbouring States, and welcomes the positive results achieved by them in the implementation of the Programme of Action adopted by the Conference;[3]

3. *Invites* all States that have not yet done so to accede to and implement fully the 1951 Convention[4] and/or the 1967 Protocol[5] relating to the Status of Refugees;

4. *Calls upon* States and interested international organizations, in a spirit of solidarity and burden-sharing, to provide appropriate forms and levels of support for activities undertaken in follow-up to the Programme of Action;

5. *Invites* international financial and other institutions to contribute to the financing of projects and programmes within the framework of such follow-up activities;

6. *Invites* the countries of the Commonwealth of Independent States to intensify bilateral, subregional and regional cooperation in maintaining the balance of commitments and interests in such activities;

7. *Calls upon* the Governments of the countries of the Commonwealth of Independent States to continue to strengthen their commitment to the principles underpinning the Programme of Action, in particular principles of human rights and refugee protection, and to lend high-level political support to ensure the implementation of activities undertaken in follow-up to the Programme of Action;

8. *Invites* the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and the International Organization for Migration to enhance their mutual relationship with other key international actors, such as the Council of Europe, the European Commission and human rights, development and financial institutions, in order better to address the wide-ranging and complex issues in activities undertaken in follow-up to the Programme of Action;

9. *Welcomes* the progress made in building civil society, in particular through the development of the non-governmental sector and the development of cooperation between non-governmental organizations and the Governments of a number of countries of the Commonwealth of Independent States, and notes in this regard the relationship between adherence to the principles of the Programme of Action and success in promoting civil society, especially in the field of human rights;

10. *Encourages* the involvement of intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations in the follow-up to the Conference, and invites them to demonstrate

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[4] *United Nations, Treaty Series*, vol. 189, No. 2545.

[5] Ibid., vol. 606, No. 8791.

stronger support for the process of the multinational constructive dialogue among a wide range of countries concerned;

11. *Emphasizes* the necessity of undertaking follow-up activities to the Programme of Action in relation to ensuring respect for human rights as an important factor in the management of migration flows, the consolidation of democracy, the rule of law and stability;

12. *Recognizes* the importance of taking measures, on the basis of strict adherence to all of the principles of international law, including humanitarian, human rights and refugee law, to prevent situations that lead to new flows of refugees, displaced persons and other forms of involuntary displacement;

13. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session on the progress achieved in the implementation of activities undertaken in follow-up to the Programme of Action;

14. *Decides* to continue its consideration of the question at its fifty-eighth session.

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Fifty-sixth session
Third Committee
Agenda item 119 (b)
Human rights questions: human rights questions, including alternative approaches for improving the effective enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms

Argentina, Armenia, Bolivia, Brazil, Cape Verde, Chile, Colombia, Cuba, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Etniopia, Guatemala, Haiti, Mexico, Morocco, Mozambique, Nicaragua, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Russian Federation, Senegal, Togo and Uruguay: draft resolution

Protection of migrants

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 55/92 of 4 December 2000,

Considering that the Universal Declaration of Human Rights[1] proclaims that all human beings are born free and equal in dignity and rights and that everyone is entitled to all the rights and freedoms set out therein, without distinction of any kind, in particular as to race, colour or national origin,

Reaffirming the provisions concerning migrants adopted by the World Conference on Human Rights,[2] the International Conference on Population and Development,[3] the World Summit for Social Development,[4] the Fourth World Conference on Women[5] and the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance,

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[1] Resolution 217 A (III).

[2] See A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III.

[3] See *Report of the International Conference on Population and Development, Cairo, 5-13 September 1994* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.95.XIII.18), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[4] See *Report of the World Summit for Social Development, Copenhagen, 6-12 March 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.8), chap. I, resolution 1, annexes I and II.

[5] See *Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4-15 September 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annexes I and II.

01-65152 (E) 211101

Bearing in mind the report of the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on the human rights of migrants,[6]

Taking note of Commission on Human Rights resolutions 2001/52, on the human rights of migrants, and 2001/56, on the protection of migrants and their families, of 24 April 2001,

Recalling its resolution 40/144 of 13 December 1985, by which it approved the Declaration on the Human Rights of Individuals Who are not Nationals of the Country in which They Live,

Recognizing the positive contributions that migrants frequently make, including through their eventual integration into their host society,

Bearing in mind the situation of vulnerability in which migrants frequently find themselves, owing, inter alia, to their absence from their States of origin and to the difficulties they encounter because of differences of language, custom and culture, as well as the economic and social difficulties and obstacles for the return to their States of origin of migrants who are non-documented or in an irregular situation,

Bearing in mind also the need for a focused and consistent approach towards migrants as a specific vulnerable group, in particular migrant women and children,

Deeply concerned at the manifestations of violence, racism, xenophobia and other forms of discrimination and inhuman and degrading treatment against migrants, especially women and children, in different parts of the world,

Underlining the importance of the creation of conditions that foster greater harmony, between migrant workers and the rest of the society of the States in which they reside, with the aim of eliminating the growing manifestations of racism and xenophobia perpetrated in segments of many societies by individuals or groups against migrants,

Encouraged by the increasing interest of the international community in the effective and full protection of the human rights of all migrants, and underlining the need to make further efforts to ensure respect for the human rights and fundamental freedoms of all migrants,

Noting the efforts made by States to penalize the international trafficking of migrants and to protect the victims of this illegal activity,

Taking note of advisory opinion OC-16/99, issued by the Inter-American Court of Human Rights on 1 October 1999, regarding the right to information about consular assistance within the framework of due process guarantees in the case of foreign nationals detained by the authorities of a receiving State,

1. *Welcomes* the renewed commitment made in the United Nations Millennium Declaration[7] to take measures to ensure respect for and protection of human rights of migrants, migrant workers and their families, to eliminate the increasing acts of racism and xenophobia in many societies and to promote greater harmony and tolerance in all societies;

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[6] E/CN.4/2001/83 and Add.1.

[7] See resolution 55/2.

2. *Requests* all Member States, in conformity with their respective constitutional systems, effectively to promote and protect the human rights of all migrants, in conformity with the Universal Declaration of Human Rights[1] and the international instruments to which they are party, which may include the International Covenants on Human Rights,[8] the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment,[9] the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination,[10] the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families,[11] the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women,[12] the Convention on the Rights of the Child[13] and other applicable international human rights instruments;

3. *Strongly condemns* all forms of racial discrimination and xenophobia with regard to access to employment, vocational training, housing, schooling, health services and social services, as well as services intended for use by the public, and welcomes the active role played by governmental and non-governmental organizations in combating racism and assisting individual victims of racist acts, including migrant victims;

4. *Calls upon* all States to review and, where necessary, revise immigration policies with a view to eliminating all discriminatory practices against migrants and to provide specialized training for government policy-making and law enforcement, immigration and other concerned officials, thus underlining the importance of effective action to create conditions that foster greater harmony and tolerance within societies;

5. *Reiterates* the need for all States to protect fully the universally recognized human rights of migrants, especially women and children, regardless of their legal status, and to treat them humanely, in particular with regard to assistance and protection;

6. *Reaffirms emphatically* the duty of States to ensure full respect for and observance of the 1963 Vienna Convention on Consular Relations,[14] particularly with regard to the right of foreign nationals, regardless of their immigration status, to communicate with a consular official of their own State in the case of detention, and the obligation of the State in whose territory the detention occurs to inform the foreign national of that right;

7. *Reaffirms* the responsibility of Governments to safeguard and protect the rights of migrants against illegal or violent acts, in particular acts of racial discrimination and crimes perpetrated with racist or xenophobic motivation by individuals or groups, and urges them to reinforce measures in this regard;

8. *Urges* all States to adopt effective measures to put an end to the arbitrary arrest and detention of migrants, including by individuals or groups;

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[8] Resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.
[9] Resolution 39/46, annex.
[10] Resolution 2106 A (XX), annex.
[11] Resolution 45/158, annex.
[12] Resolution 34/180, annex.
[13] Resolution 44/25, annex.
[14] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 596, No. 8638.

9. *Expresses* its support for the work of the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on the human rights of migrants, and requests her to take into account the recommendations contained in the Durban Declaration and Plan of Action, in the performance of her mandate, tasks and duties;

10. *Encourages* Member States that have not yet done so to enact domestic criminal legislation to combat international trafficking of migrants, which should take into account, in particular, trafficking that endangers the lives of migrants or includes different forms of servitude or exploitation, such as any form of debt bondage, sexual or labour exploitation, and to strengthen international cooperation to combat such trafficking;

11. *Encourages* all Governments to remove obstacles that may prevent the safe, unrestricted and expeditious transfer of earnings, assets and pensions of migrants to their country of origin or to any other countries, in conformity with applicable legislation, and to consider, as appropriate, measures to solve other problems that may impede such transfers;

12. *Welcomes* immigration programmes, adopted by some countries, that allow migrants to integrate fully into the host countries, facilitate family reunification and promote a harmonious and tolerant environment, and encourages States to consider the possibility of adopting these types of programmes;

13. *Calls upon* all States to protect the human rights of migrant children, in particular unaccompanied migrant children, ensuring that the best interests of the children are the paramount consideration, and encourages the relevant United Nations bodies, within the framework of their respective mandates, to pay special attention to the conditions of migrant children in all States and, where necessary, to put forward recommendations for strengthening their protection;

14. *Welcomes* the proclamation of 18 December as International Migrants Day and the invitation to Member States and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to observe it through, inter alia, the dissemination of information on the human rights and fundamental freedoms of migrants and on their economic, social and cultural contributions to their host and home countries, the sharing of experience and the design of actions to ensure their protection;

15. *Encourages* States to participate in regional dialogues on problems of migration, and invites them to design and implement programmes with States of other regions in order to protect the rights of migrants;

16. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session a report on the implementation of the present resolution under the sub-item entitled "Human rights questions, including alternative approaches for improving the effective enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms".

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Agenda item 114
Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, questions relating to refugees, returnees and displaced persons and humanitarian questions

Uganda:* draft resolution

Assistance to refugees, returnees and displaced persons in Africa

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 55/77 of 4 December 2000,

Recalling also the provisions of its resolution 2312 (XXII) of 14 December 1967, by which it adopted the Declaration on Territorial Asylum,

Recalling further the Organization of African Unity Convention governing the specific aspects of refugee problems in Africa of 1969[1] and the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights,[2]

Recalling the Khartoum Declaration[3] and the Recommendations on Refugees, Returnees and Internally Displaced Persons[4] in Africa adopted by the Organization of African Unity at the ministerial meeting held at Khartoum on 13 and 14 December 1998,

Welcoming decision CM/Dec.598 (LXXIV) on the situation of refugees, returnees and displaced persons in Africa adopted by the Council of Ministers of the Organization of African Unity at its seventy-fourth ordinary session, held at Lusaka from 5 to 8 July 2001,[5]

Welcoming also decision AHG/Dec.165 (XXXVII) on the fiftieth anniversary of the adoption of the 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees adopted

* On behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of African States.

[1] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1001, No. 14691.

[2] Ibid., vol. 1520, No. 26363.

[3] A/54/682, annex I.

[4] Ibid., annex II.

[5] See A/56/457, annex II.

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by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity at its thirty-seventh ordinary session, held at Lusaka from 9 to 11 July 2001,[6]

Noting that the year 2001 marks the fiftieth anniversary of the 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees,[7] which together with its 1967 Protocol,[8] as complemented by the Organization of African Unity Convention of 1969, remains the foundation of the international refugee protection regime in Africa,

Recognizing that the fundamental principles and rights embodied in these Conventions have provided a resilient protection regime within which millions of refugees have been able to find safety from armed conflicts and persecution,

Recalling the Comprehensive Implementation Plan adopted by the Special Meeting of Governmental and Non-Governmental Technical Experts convened by the Organization of African Unity and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees at Conakry from 27 to 29 March 2000, on the occasion of the thirtieth anniversary of the adoption of the Organization of African Unity Convention governing the specific aspects of refugee problems in Africa, and noting its endorsement by the Council of Ministers of the Organization of African Unity at its seventy-second ordinary session,[9]

Commending the First Ministerial Conference on Human Rights in Africa of the Organization of African Unity, held at Grand-Baie, Mauritius, from 12 to 16 April 1999, and recalling the attention paid to issues relevant to refugees and displaced persons in the Declaration and Plan of Action adopted by the Conference,

Recognizing the contributions made by African States to the development of regional standards for the protection of refugees and returnees, and noting with appreciation that countries of asylum are hosting refugees in a humanitarian spirit and in a spirit of African solidarity and brotherhood,

Recognizing also the need for States to address resolutely the root causes of forced displacement and to create conditions that facilitate durable solutions for refugees and displaced persons, and stressing in this regard the need for States to foster peace, stability and prosperity throughout the African continent,

Convinced of the need to strengthen the capacity of States to provide assistance and protection for refugees, returnees and displaced persons and of the need for the international community, within the context of burden-sharing, to increase its material, financial and technical assistance to the countries affected by refugees, returnees and displaced persons,

Acknowledging with appreciation that some assistance is already rendered by the international community to refugees, returnees and displaced persons and host countries in Africa,

Noting with great concern that, despite all the efforts deployed so far by the United Nations, the Organization of African Unity and others, the situation of refugees and displaced persons in Africa remains precarious,

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[6] Ibid., annex I.

[7] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 189, No. 2545.

[8] Ibid., vol. 606, No. 8791.

[9] See A/55/286, annex I, decision CM/Dec.531 (LXXII), para. 8.

Stressing that the provision of relief and assistance to African refugees by the international community should be on an equitable, non-discriminatory basis,

Considering that, among refugees, returnees and internally displaced persons, women and children are the majority of the population affected by conflict and bear the brunt of atrocities and other consequences of conflict,

1. *Takes note* of the reports of the Secretary-General[10] and the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees;[11]

2. *Notes with concern* that the declining socio-economic situation, compounded by political instability, internal strife, human rights violations and natural disasters, has led to increased numbers of refugees and displaced persons in some countries of Africa, and remains particularly concerned about the impact of large-scale refugee populations on the security, socio-economic situation and environment of countries of asylum;

3. *Encourages* African States to ensure the full implementation of and follow-up to the Comprehensive Implementation Plan adopted by the Special Meeting of Governmental and Non-Governmental Technical Experts convened by the Organization of African Unity and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees at Conakry from 27 to 29 March 2000, on the occasion of the thirtieth anniversary of the adoption of the Organization of African Unity Convention governing the specific aspects of refugee problems in Africa of 1969;[1]

4. *Calls upon* States and other parties to armed conflict to observe scrupulously the letter and the spirit of international humanitarian law, bearing in mind that armed conflict is one of the principal causes of forced displacement in Africa;

5. *Expresses its appreciation* for the leadership shown by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees since assuming office in January 2001, and commends the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees for the ongoing efforts, with the support of the international community, to assist African countries of asylum and to respond to the protection and assistance needs of refugees, returnees and displaced persons in Africa;

6. *Notes* the Ministerial Meeting of States Parties to the 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees[7] to be held in Geneva on 12 and 13 December 2001, and encourages African States parties to the Convention to participate actively in the event;

7. *Welcomes* the process of the Global Consultations on International Protection launched by the Office of the High Commissioner, which provide an important forum for open discussion on complex legal and operational protection issues, and in this context invites African States to continue to participate actively in this process so as to bring their regional perspective to bear, thus ensuring that adequate attention is paid to concerns that are specific to Africa;

8. *Reaffirms* that the 1951 Convention and the 1967 Protocol[8] relating to the Status of Refugees, as complemented by the Organization of African Unity Convention of 1969, remain the foundation of the international refugee protection

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[10] A/56/335.

[11] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 12* (A/56/12).

regime in Africa, encourages African States that have not yet done so to accede to those instruments, and calls upon States parties to the Conventions to reaffirm their commitment to their ideals and to respect and observe their provisions;

9. *Notes* the need for States to address the root causes of forced displacement in Africa, and calls upon African States, the international community and relevant United Nations organizations to take concrete action to meet the needs of refugees, returnees and displaced persons for protection and assistance and to contribute generously to national projects and programmes aimed at alleviating their plight;

10. *Also notes* the link, inter alia, between human rights violations, poverty, natural disasters and environmental degradation and population displacement, and calls for redoubled and concerted efforts by States, in collaboration with the Organization of African Unity, to promote and protect human rights for all and to address these problems;

11. *Encourages* the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees to continue to cooperate with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights, within their respective mandates, in the promotion and protection of the human rights and fundamental freedoms of refugees, returnees and displaced persons in Africa;

12. *Notes with appreciation* the ongoing mediation and conflict resolution efforts carried out by African States, the Organization of African Unity and subregional organizations, as well as the establishment of regional mechanisms for conflict prevention and resolution, and urges all relevant parties to address the humanitarian consequences of conflicts;

13. *Expresses its appreciation and strong support* for those African Governments and local populations that, in spite of the general deterioration of socio-economic and environmental conditions and overstretched national resources, continue to accept the additional burden imposed upon them by increasing numbers of refugees and displaced persons, in compliance with the relevant principles of asylum;

14. *Expresses its concern* about instances in which the fundamental principle of asylum is jeopardized by unlawful expulsion or refoulement or by threats to the life, physical security, integrity, dignity and well-being of refugees;

15. *Calls upon* States, in cooperation with international organizations, within their mandates, to take all necessary measures to ensure respect for the principles of refugee protection and, in particular, to ensure that the civilian and humanitarian nature of refugee camps is not compromised by the presence or the activities of armed elements;

16. *Deplores* the deaths and injuries and other forms of violence sustained by staff members of the Office of the High Commissioner and urges States, parties to conflict and all other relevant actors to take all necessary measures to protect activities related to humanitarian assistance, to prevent attacks on and kidnapping of national and international humanitarian workers and to ensure their safety and security, calls upon States to investigate fully any crimes committed against humanitarian personnel and bring to justice persons responsible for such crimes, and

calls upon organizations and aid workers to abide by the national laws and regulations of the countries in which they operate;

17. *Calls upon* the Office of the High Commissioner, the Organization of African Unity, subregional organizations and all African States, in conjunction with agencies of the United Nations system, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and the international community, to strengthen and revitalize existing partnerships and forge new ones in support of the international refugee protection system;

18. *Calls upon* the Office of the High Commissioner, the international community and other concerned entities to intensify their support to African Governments through appropriate capacity-building activities, including training of relevant officers, disseminating information about refugee instruments and principles, providing financial, technical and advisory services to accelerate the enactment or amendment and implementation of legislation relating to refugees, strengthening emergency response and enhancing capacities for the coordination of humanitarian activities;

19. *Reaffirms* the right of return and also the principle of voluntary repatriation, appeals to countries of origin and countries of asylum to create conditions that are conducive to voluntary repatriation, and recognizes that, while voluntary repatriation remains the pre-eminent solution, local integration and third-country resettlement, as appropriate, are also viable options for dealing with the situation of African refugees who, owing to prevailing circumstances in their respective countries of origin, are unable to return home;

20. *Notes with satisfaction* the voluntary return of millions of refugees to their homelands following the successful repatriation and reintegration operations carried out by the Office of the High Commissioner, with the cooperation and collaboration of countries hosting refugees and countries of origin, and looks forward to other programmes to assist the voluntary repatriation and reintegration of all refugees in Africa;

21. *Appeals* to the international community to respond positively, in the spirit of solidarity and burden-sharing, to the third-country resettlement requests of African refugees, and notes with appreciation that some African countries have offered resettlement places for refugees;

22. *Welcomes* the programmes carried out by the Office of the High Commissioner with host Governments, the United Nations, non-governmental organizations and the international community to address the environmental impact of refugee populations;

23. *Calls upon* the international donor community to provide material and financial assistance for the implementation of programmes intended for the rehabilitation of the environment and infrastructure affected by refugees in countries of asylum;

24. *Expresses its concern* about the long stay of refugees in certain African countries, and calls upon the Office of the High Commissioner to keep its programmes under review, in conformity with its mandate in the host countries, taking into account the increasing needs of refugees;

25. *Emphasizes* the need for the Office of the High Commissioner to collate statistics, on a regular basis, on the number of refugees living outside refugee camps in certain African countries, with a view to evaluating and addressing the needs of those refugees;

26. *Urges* the international community, in a spirit of international solidarity and burden-sharing, to continue to fund generously the refugee programmes of the Office of the High Commissioner and, taking into account the substantially increased needs of programmes in Africa, to ensure that Africa receives a fair and equitable share of the resources designated for refugees;

27. *Requests* all Governments and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to pay particular attention to meeting the special needs of refugee women and children and displaced persons, including those with special protection needs;

28. *Calls upon* States and the Office of the High Commissioner to make renewed efforts to ensure that the rights, needs and dignity of elderly refugees are fully respected and addressed through appropriate programme activities;

29. *Expresses grave concern* about the plight of internally displaced persons in Africa, calls upon States to take concrete action to pre-empt internal displacement and to meet the protection and assistance needs of internally displaced persons, recalls in this regard the Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement,[12] and urges the international community, led by relevant United Nations organizations, to contribute generously to national projects and programmes aimed at alleviating the plight of internally displaced persons;

30. *Invites* the Representative of the Secretary-General on internally displaced persons to continue his ongoing dialogue with Member States and the intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations concerned, in accordance with his mandate, and to include information thereon in his reports to the Commission on Human Rights and the General Assembly;

31. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a comprehensive report on assistance to refugees, returnees and displaced persons in Africa to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session, taking fully into account the efforts expended by countries of asylum, under the item entitled "Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, questions relating to refugees, returnees and displaced persons and humanitarian questions", and to present an oral report to the Economic and Social Council at its substantive session of 2002.

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[12] E/CN.4/1998/53/Add.2, annex.

United Nations A/C.3/56/L.73

General Assembly

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Fifty-sixth session
Third Committee
Agenda item 114
Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, questions relating to refugees, returnees and displaced persons and humanitarian questions

Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Botswana, Cameroon, Côte d'Ivoire, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Guinea, Islamic Republic of Iran, Kenya, Madagascar, Malawi, Mauritania, Morocco, Nigeria, Pakistan, Panama, Qatar, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic and Yemen: draft resolution

Assistance to unaccompanied refugee minors

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 49/172 of 23 December 1994, 50/150 of 21 December 1995, 51/73 of 12 December 1996, 52/105 of 12 December 1997, 53/122 of 9 December 1998 and 54/145 of 17 December 1999,

Aware of the fact that the majority of refugees are children and women,

Bearing in mind that unaccompanied refugee minors are among the most vulnerable refugees and the most at risk of neglect, violence, forced military recruitment, sexual assault and therefore require special assistance and care,

Mindful of the fact that the ultimate solution to the plight of unaccompanied minors is their return to and reunification with their families,

Noting the revised Guidelines on Refugee Children issued by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees in May 1994 and development of an emergency kit to facilitate coordination and enhance the quality of response to the needs of unaccompanied minors by the Office of the High Commissioner for Refugees, the United Nations Children's Fund and non-governmental organizations,

Noting with appreciation the efforts of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and the United Nations Children's Fund in the identification and tracing of unaccompanied minors, and welcoming their efforts in reunifying families of refugees,

Welcoming the efforts exerted by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees reuniting refugees with their families,

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Noting the efforts of the High Commissioner to ensure the protection of and assistance to refugees, including children and unaccompanied minors, and that further enhanced efforts need to be exerted to this effect,

Recalling the provisions of the Convention on the Rights of the Child,[1] and the 1951 Convention[2] and 1967 Protocol[3] relating to the Status of Refugees,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-Genera;[4]

2. *Also takes note* of the report of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict;[5]

3. *Expresses its deep concern* at the continued plight of unaccompanied refugee minors, and emphasizes once again the urgent need for their early identification and for timely, detailed and accurate information on their number and whereabouts;

4. *Stresses* the importance of providing adequate resources for programmes of identification and tracing of unaccompanied minors;

5. *Calls upon* the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, in cooperation with other relevant United Nations bodies, to incorporate into its programmes policies that aim at preventing the separation of refugee families, conscious of the importance of family unity;

6. *Calls upon* all Governments, the Secretary-General, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, all United Nations organizations, other international organizations and non-governmental organizations concerned to exert the maximum effort to assist and protect refugee minors and to expedite the return and reunification with their families of unaccompanied refugee minors;

7. *Urges* the Office of the High Commissioner, all United Nations organizations, other international organizations and non-governmental organizations concerned to take appropriate steps to mobilize resources commensurate with the needs and interests of unaccompanied refugee minors and for their reunification with their families;

8. *Calls upon* all States and other parties to armed conflict to respect international humanitarian law, and, in this regard, calls upon States parties to respect fully the provisions of the Geneva Convention of 12 August 1949[6] and related instruments, while bearing in mind resolution 2 adopted at the twenty-sixth International Conference of the Red Cross and Red Crescent, held at Geneva in December 1995, and to respect the provisions of the Convention on the Rights of the Child,[1] which accord children affected by armed conflict special protection and treatment;

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[1] Resolution 44/25, annex.
[2] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 189, No. 2545.
[3] Ibid., vol. 606, No. 8791.
[4] See A/56/333.
[5] See A/56/453.
[6] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 75, Nos. 970-973.

9. *Condemns* all acts of exploitation of unaccompanied refugee minors, including their use as soldiers or human shields in armed conflict and their forced recruitment into military forces, and any other acts that endanger their safety and personal security;

10. *Calls upon* the Secretary-General, the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, the Office for Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs of the United Nations Secretariat, the United Nations Children's Fund, other United Nations organizations and other international organizations to mobilize adequate assistance to unaccompanied refugee minors in the areas of relief, education, health and psychological rehabilitation;

11. *Encourages* the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on the impact of armed conflict on children in his efforts to raise awareness worldwide and mobilize official and public opinion for the protection of children affected by armed conflict, including refugee minors;

12. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session on the implementation of the present resolution and to give special attention to the girl-child refugee in his report.

Recalling its previous annual resolutions on the work of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees since its establishment by the General Assembly,[3]

Expressing its appreciation for the leadership shown by the High Commissioner since assuming office in January 2001, and commending the staff and implementing partners of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for the competent, courageous and dedicated manner in which they discharge their responsibilities,

1. *Endorses* the report of the Executive Committee of the Programme of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees on the work of its fifty-second session;[2]

2. *Welcomes* the fiftieth anniversary of the 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees,[4] and notes that the Convention and its 1967 Protocol[5] have continuously served as the cornerstone of the international refugee protection regime, and welcomes in this context the convening of a ministerial meeting of States parties as an expression of their collective commitment to full and effective implementation of the Convention and Protocol and the values they embody;

3. *Reaffirms* that the 1951 Convention[4] and its 1967 Protocol[5] remain the foundation of the international refugee regime and recognizes the importance of their full application by States parties, notes with satisfaction that one hundred and forty-one States are now parties to one instrument or to both, encourages the Office of the High Commissioner and States to strengthen their efforts to promote broader accession to those instruments and their full implementation, and underlines in particular the importance of full respect for the principle of non-refoulement;

4. *Notes* that fifty-three States are now parties to the 1954 Convention relating to the Status of Stateless Persons[6] and that twenty-four States are parties to the 1961 Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness,[7] and encourages the High Commissioner to continue his activities on behalf of stateless persons;

5. *Welcomes* the process of Global Consultations on International Protection launched by the Office of the High Commissioner and acknowledges their importance as a forum for open discussion on complex legal and operational protection issues;

6. *Reiterates* that international protection is a dynamic and action-oriented function, carried out in cooperation with States and other partners, inter alia, to promote and facilitate the admission, reception and treatment of refugees and to ensure durable, protection-oriented solutions, bearing in mind the particular needs of vulnerable groups;

7. *Re-emphasizes* that the protection of refugees is primarily the responsibility of States, whose full and effective cooperation, action and political resolve are required to enable the Office of the High Commissioner to fulfil its mandated functions;

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[3] Resolution 428 (V).
[4] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 189, No. 2545.
[5] Ibid., vol. 606, No. 8791.
[6] Ibid., vol. 360, No. 5158.
[7] Ibid., vol. 989, No. 14458.

8. *Urges* all States and relevant non-governmental and other organizations, in conjunction with the Office of the High Commissioner, in a spirit of international solidarity and burden- and responsibility-sharing, to cooperate and to mobilize resources with a view to enhancing the capacity and reducing the heavy burden borne by States, in particular by developing countries as well as by countries with economies in transition that have received large numbers of refugees and asylum-seekers, and calls upon the Office of the High Commissioner to continue to play its catalytic role in mobilizing assistance from the international community to address the root causes as well as the economic, environmental and social impact of large-scale refugee populations, especially in developing countries as well as in countries with economies in transition;

9. *Strongly reaffirms* the fundamental importance and the purely humanitarian and non-political character of the function of the Office of the High Commissioner of providing international protection to refugees and seeking permanent solutions to refugee problems, recalls that these solutions include voluntary repatriation and, where appropriate and feasible, local integration and resettlement in a third country, reaffirming that voluntary repatriation remains the preferred solution, accompanied by the necessary rehabilitation measures and supported by development assistance from the international community to ensure sustainable reintegration;

10. *Emphasizes* the obligation of all States to accept the return of their nationals, calls upon States to facilitate the return of their nationals determined not to be in need of international protection, and affirms the need for the return of persons to be undertaken in a safe and humane manner and with full respect for their human rights and dignity, irrespective of the status of the persons concerned;

11. *Recognizes* that adequate and timely resources are essential to the High Commissioner to effectively discharge his mandated functions on an equitable basis, and urges Governments and other donors to respond promptly to the Global Appeal issued by his Office for requirements under its annual programme budget;

12. *Requests* the Office of the High Commissioner, with this sustained support, to continue to fulfil the mandate conferred upon it through its statute and by subsequent General Assembly resolutions concerning refugees and other persons of concern,[8] in close cooperation with its relevant partners;

13. *Requests* the High Commissioner to report on his activities to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session, and to include in his report the results of the Global Consultations on International Protection.

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[8] See www.unhcr.ch (Executive Committee — GA resolutions).

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Fifty-sixth session
Third Committee
Agenda item 12
Report of the Economic and Social Council

Organization of work of the Third Committee and draft biennial programme of work of the Committee for 2002-2003

Note by the Secretariat

1. In its resolution 46/140 of 17 December 1991, the General Assembly reaffirmed the recommendations on the rationalization of the work of the Third Committee contained in its resolution 45/175 of 18 December 1990 and recommended further rationalization measures, as outlined in annex I to resolution 46/140.

2. The present document contains, in annex I, measures on the organization of work of the Third Committee and, in annex II, the draft biennial programme of work of the Committee for 2002-2003. The draft programme has been prepared on the basis of existing legislative authority. It also takes into account the draft proposals on which the Third Committee has taken action. The information in the annexes will be updated orally by the Secretariat when they are considered by the Committee.

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Annex I

Organization of work of the Third Committee

A. Guidelines concerning time limits of statements

1. In accordance with rule 106 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly and paragraph 22 of decision 34/401 on the rationalization of the procedures and organization of the General Assembly, at the beginning of each session, the Chairman of the Third Committee should propose to the Committee the limitation of the time to be allowed to speakers.

2. Further to General Assembly resolutions 45/175 of 18 December 1990 and 46/140 of 17 December 1991, on the rationalization of the work of the Third Committee, statements made by delegations and by Secretariat officials, unless decided otherwise by the Committee at the beginning of the session, should not exceed seven minutes. Statements made on behalf of a group of delegations or made in connection with the sub-items under the agenda item on human rights questions should not exceed 15 minutes. These time limits will be applied with a degree of flexibility towards all speakers. With a view to saving time, all speakers are encouraged to exercise self-discipline, in particular delegations associated with group statements. For practical reasons, group statements are encouraged for the first day of the discussion of an item or sub-item. In this connection, it is important to emphasize the timely distribution of documentation in accordance with the rules of procedure of the Assembly, in order to enable delegations to inscribe themselves on the list of speakers at an early stage.

B. Draft resolutions on reports of treaty bodies and reports of the Secretary-General on the status of the treaties

3. Reports of all treaty bodies will be submitted to the General Assembly in accordance with their respective legislative mandates. Substantive resolutions on those reports should be adopted biennially, in accordance with the programme of work of the Third Committee. Where possible, it is recommended that separate draft resolutions on the status of the treaties not be submitted but be incorporated in the draft resolution relating to the report of the treaty body. In alternate years, the Committee should simply take note of the reports unless more substantive action is deemed appropriate.

C. Draft proposals emanating from subsidiary organs of the Economic and Social Council

4. The Economic and Social Council, in transmitting draft proposals to the General Assembly should, to the extent possible, bear in mind the programme of work of the Third Committee.

D. Programme of work

5. An informal meeting of the Third Committee should be held immediately after the election of the members of its Bureau in order to consider the programme of work of the Committee based on a draft to be prepared by the Secretariat and to consider other organizational aspects relating to the Committee's work, especially the status of documentation.

6. The items allocated to the Third Committee for consideration during the fifty-seventh session of the General Assembly should be taken up in the following order:

Item

2. Implementation of the outcome of the World Summit for Social Development and the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly.

3. Social development, including questions relating to the world social situation and to youth, disabled persons and the family.

4. Follow-up to the International Year of Older Persons: Second World Assembly on Ageing.

5. Crime prevention and criminal justice.

6. International drug control.

7. Advancement of women.

8. Implementation of the outcome of the Fourth World Conference on Women and of the special session of the General Assembly entitled "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century".

9. Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, questions relating to refugees, returnees and displaced persons and humanitarian questions.

10. Promotion and protection of the rights of children.

11. Programme of activities of the International Decade of the World's Indigenous People.

12. Elimination of racism and racial discrimination.[a]

13. Right of peoples to self-determination.[a]

14. Human rights questions:[b] [c]

    (a) Implementation of human rights instruments;

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[a] Items 12 and 13 are to be discussed jointly; delegates may make two separate statements, that is, one on each item, if they so wish.

[b] Sub-items (a) and (d) are to be discussed separately; sub-items (b), (c) and (e) are to be discussed jointly.

[c] Delegations may make one statement each under sub-items (a) and (d) and two statements under sub-items (b), (c) and (e), but should not make two statements on any one sub-item.

(b) Human rights questions, including alternative approaches for improving the effective enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms;

(c) Human rights situations and reports of special rapporteurs and representatives;

(d) Comprehensive implementation of and follow-up to the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action;

(e) Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights.

1. Report of the Economic and Social Council.

7. This arrangement may be reviewed at the organizational meeting of the Third Committee, particularly in the light of the status of documentation at that time.

E. Preparation and submission of draft resolutions

8. In drawing up draft resolutions, delegations are requested to adhere to the programme of work of the Third Committee as reproduced below.

9. Delegations are invited to take into account the general guidelines agreed upon in Assembly resolutions 45/175 and 46/140 regarding the submission of draft proposals and as set out below.[d]

Item 1
Report of the Economic and Social Council

Matters calling for action by the General Assembly (Third Committee) or brought to its attention

Questions that do not fall within the purview of the other items on the agenda of the General Assembly allocated to the Third Committee

Item 2
Implementation of the outcome of the World Summit for Social Development and of the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly (2002)

Item 3
Social development, including questions relating to the world social situation and to youth, disabled persons and the family

Annual

United Nations literacy decade (2002) (A/C.3/56/L.10/Rev.1, para. 11)

Biennial

World social situation (odd years) (A/C.3/56/L.11, para. 14)

[d] References to "odd" and "even" years refer to calendar years.

Implementation of the World Programme of Action concerning Disabled Persons: towards a society for all in the twenty-first century (odd years)

Policies and programmes involving youth (odd years)

United Nations literacy decade (odd years)

Family (odd years)

Cooperatives in social development (odd years)

International year of volunteers (2002)

Quinquennial

Review and appraisal of the World Programme of Action concerning Disabled Persons (2002)

Item 4
Follow-up to the International Year of Older Persons: Second World Assembly on Ageing

Annual

Follow-up to the International Year of Older Persons (2002)

Item 5
Crime prevention and criminal justice

Annual

Strengthening the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme, particularly its technical cooperation capacity

United Nations African Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders

United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders (2002)

Combating the criminal misuse of information technologies (2003) (A/C.3/56/L.15/Rev.1)

Quinquennial

United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders (2005)

Item 6
International drug control

Annual

Implementation of the United Nations System-wide Action Plan on Drug Abuse Control and the Global Programme of Action against illicit production, supply, demand, trafficking and distribution of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances; international cooperation to counter the world drug problem; respect for the

principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations and international law in the fight against drug abuse and illicit trafficking; United Nations International Drug Control Programme; measures to strengthen international cooperation against the illicit production, sale, trafficking and distribution of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances and related matters; implementation of the outcome of the twentieth special session of the General Assembly

Biennial

Update of the United Nations System-wide Action Plan on Drug Abuse Control (even years)

Item 7
Advancement of women

Annual

Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (General Assembly resolution 34/180)

Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women

Improvement of the status of women in the United Nations system

United Nations Development Fund for Women

International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women (2002)

Biennial

Traditional or customary practices affecting the health of women and girls (odd years)

Improvement of the situation of women in rural areas (odd years)

Violence against women migrant workers (odd years)

Traffic in women and girls (even years)

Elimination of crimes against women committed in the name of honour (2002)

Elimination of all forms of violence against women, including crimes identified in the outcome document of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly (2002)

Item 8
Implementation of the outcome of the Fourth World Conference on Women and of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly, entitled "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century"

Annual

Implementation of the outcome of the Fourth World Conference on Women and of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly

Item 9
Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, questions relating to refugees, returnees and displaced persons and humanitarian questions

Annual

Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

Assistance to refugees, returnees and displaced persons in Africa

Biennial

Assistance to unaccompanied refugee minors (2003)

New international humanitarian order (even years)

Follow-up to the Regional Conference to Address the Problems of Refugees, Displaced Persons, Other Forms of Involuntary Displacement and Returnees in the Countries of the Commonwealth of Independent States and Relevant Neighbouring States (2003) (A/C.3/56/L.70)

Quinquennial

Extension of the mandate of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (2002)

Item 10
Promotion and protection of the rights of children

Annual

Implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child; children with disabilities; prevention and eradication of the sale of children, and of their sexual exploitation, including child prostitution and child pornography; protection of children affected by armed conflict; refugee and internally displaced children; elimination of the exploitation of child labour; plight of children living and/or working on the streets; the girl child

Biennial

Report of the Committee on the Rights of the Child (even years)

Item 11
Programme of activities of the International Decade of the World's Indigenous People

Annual

International Decade of the World's Indigenous People

United Nations Voluntary Fund for Indigenous Populations

Item 12
Elimination of racism and racial discrimination

Annual

Third Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination (1993-2002)

Measures to combat contemporary forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance

Report of the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination (article 9 of the Convention of the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (General Assembly resolution 2016 A (X)))

Biennial

Financial situation of the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination (even years)

Status of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (even years)

Item 13
Right of peoples to self-determination

Annual

Universal realization of the right of peoples to self-determination

Use of mercenaries as a means to violate human rights and to impede the exercise of the right of peoples to self-determination

Item 14
Human rights questions

(a) Implementation of human rights instruments

Annual

International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families (to be considered biennially after the entry into force of the Convention)

Report of the Committee against Torture

Status of the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment

United Nations Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture

Report of the Human Rights Committee (General Assembly resolution 2200 A (XXI))

Biennial

Effective implementation of international instruments on human rights, including reporting obligations under international instruments on human rights (even years)

Status of the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide (even years)

International Covenants on Human Rights (odd years)

Reports of meetings of persons chairing United Nations human rights treaty bodies (even years)

(b) Human rights questions, including alternative approaches for improving the effective enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms

Annual

Alternative approaches and ways and means within the United Nations system for improving the effective enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms

Promotion of a democratic and equitable international order (2002) (A/C.3/56/L.44)

Right to development

Protection of migrants

Globalization and its impact on the full enjoyment of all human rights

Human rights and cultural diversity

Declaration on the right and responsibility of individuals, groups and organs of society to promote and protect universally recognized human rights and fundamental freedoms

Elimination of all forms of religious intolerance

Strengthening of United Nations action in the field of human rights through the promotion of international cooperation and the importance of non-selectivity, impartiality and objectivity

United Nations Decade on Human Rights Education, 1995-2004, and public information activities in the field of human rights

Human rights and unilateral coercive measures

Enhancement of international cooperation in the field of human rights

Respect for the purposes and principles contained in the Charter of the United Nations to achieve international cooperation in promoting and encouraging respect for human rights and for fundamental freedoms and in solving international problems of humanitarian character

Right to food

Comprehensive and integral international convention to promote and protect the rights and dignity of persons with disabilities (2002)

Subregional centre of human rights and democracy in central Africa (2002)

Biennial

Extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions (even years)

Respect for universal freedom of travel and the vital importance of family reunification (2002) (General Assembly resolution 55/100)

Regional arrangements for the promotion and protection of human rights (even years)

Question of enforced or involuntary disappearances (even years)

Human rights and terrorism (odd years)

National institutions for the protection and promotion of human rights (odd years)

Human rights and extreme poverty (even years)

Declaration on the Rights of Persons Belonging to National or Ethnic, Religious and Linguistic Minorities (odd years)

Human rights and mass exoduses (odd years)

Human rights in the administration of justice (odd years)

Respect for the principles of national sovereignty and non-interference in the internal affairs of States in their electoral processes (odd years)

Enhancing the effectiveness of the principle of periodic and genuine elections (odd years)

Protection of and assistance to internally displaced persons (odd years)

Strengthening of the rule of law (even years)

Quinquennial

Award of human rights prizes (2003)

(c) Human rights situations and reports of special rapporteurs and representatives

(d) Comprehensive implementation of and follow-up to the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action

Annual

Implementation of and follow-up to the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action adopted at the World Conference on Human Rights

(e) Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights

Annual

Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights

Annex II

Draft biennial programme of work of the Third Committee for 2002-2003

2002

Item 1
Report of the Economic and Social Council

Matters calling for action by the General Assembly (Third Committee) or brought to its attention

Documentation

Relevant chapters of the report of the Economic and Social Council on questions that do not fall within the purview of the other items on the agenda of the General Assembly allocated to the Third Committee

Item 2
Implementation of the outcome of the World Summit for Social Development and of the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General (A/C.3/56/L.11, para. 16)

Item 3
Social development, including questions relating to the world social situation and to youth, disabled persons and the family

Documentation

Relevant chapter of the report of the Economic and Social Council

Report of the Secretary-General on the outcome of the International Year of Volunteers and its follow-up (General Assembly resolution 55/57)

Report of the Secretary-General on the preparation for and observance of the tenth anniversary of the International Year of the Family (A/C.3/56/L.2 and A/C.3/56/L.7)[a]

Report of the Secretary-General on an international plan of action for the United Nations literacy decade: Education for All (A/C.3/56/L.10/Rev.1, para. 11)

Questions for consideration for which no advance documentation has been requested

Quinquennial review and appraisal of the World Programme of Action concerning Disabled Persons

[a] Through the Economic and Social Council.

Item 4
Follow-up to the International Year of Older Persons: Second World Assembly on Ageing

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on the follow-up to the International Year of Older Persons: Second World Assembly on Ageing (A/C.3/56/L.6/Rev.1, para. 8)

Report of the Secretary-General on the full range of tasks of the Unit on Ageing of the Division for Social Policy and Development (A/C.3/56/L.6/Rev.1, para. 3)

Item 5
Crime prevention and criminal justice

Documentation

Relevant chapter of the report of the Economic and Social Council (including recommendations regarding the Eleventh United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders) (A/C.3/56/L.4, para. 6)[a]

Report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders (A/C.3/56/L.4, para. 8)

Report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations African Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders (A/C.3/56/L.16, para. 10)

Report of the Secretary-General on strengthening the United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice programme, in particular its technical cooperation capacity (A/C.3/56/L.17, para. 21)

Item 6
International drug control

Documentation

Relevant chapter of the report of the Economic and Social Council

Report of the Secretary-General containing the biennial update of the United Nations System-wide Action Plan on Drug Abuse Control (General Assembly resolution 48/112)

Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the outcome of the twentieth special session (A/C.3/56/L.18, para. 8)

Item 7
Advancement of women

Documentation

Relevant chapter of the report of the Economic and Social Council

Report of the Secretary-General on working towards the elimination of crimes against women committed in the name of honour (General Assembly resolution 55/66)

Report of the Secretary-General on traffic in women and girls (General Assembly resolution 55/67)

Comprehensive report by the Secretary-General on the elimination of all forms of violence against women, including crimes identified in the outcome document of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly (General Assembly resolution 55/68)

Report of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (General Assembly resolution 34/180)[a]

Report of the Secretary-General on the status of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (General Assembly resolution 45/124, A/C.3/56/L.26, para. 19)

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme on the activities of the United Nations Development Fund for Women (General Assembly resolution 39/125)

Report of the Secretary-General on the critical situation of the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women (A/C.3/56/L.20/Rev.1, para. 7)[a]

Report of the Secretary-General on the improvement of the status of women in the United Nations system (A/C.3/56/L.22, para. 11)

Item 8
Implementation of the outcome of the Fourth World Conference on Women and of the special session of the General Assembly entitled "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century"

Documentation

Relevant chapter of the report of the Economic and Social Council

Report of the Secretary-General on the follow-up to and progress made in the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the outcome of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly (General Assembly resolutions 50/203 and 55/71)[a]

Item 9
Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, questions relating to refugees, returnees and displaced persons and humanitarian questions

Documentation

Relevant chapter of the report of the Economic and Social Council

Extension of the mandate of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (General Assembly resolution 52/104)

Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (General Assembly resolution 428 (V), annex)[a]

Report of the Secretary-General on the new international humanitarian order (General Assembly resolution 55/73)

Report of the Secretary-General on assistance to refugees, returnees and displaced persons in Africa (A/C.3/56/L.72, para. 31)

Item 10
Promotion and protection of the rights of children

Documentation

Report of the Committee on the Rights of the Child (General Assembly resolution 44/25, annex)[a]

Report of the Secretary-General on the rights of the child, containing information on the status of the Convention on the Rights of the Child and the Optional Protocols thereto (A/C.3/56/L.28/Rev.1, para. 5 (a))

Report of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict on the situation of children affected by armed conflict (A/C.3/56/L.28/Rev.1, para. 5 (b))

Item 11
Programme of activities of the International Decade of the World's Indigenous People

Documentation

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights on the implementation of the programme of activities for the Decade, including the United Nations Voluntary Fund for Indigenous People (General Assembly resolution 55/80, para. 4 (c); A/C.3/56/L.30, para. 12)

Item 12
Elimination of racism and racial discrimination

Documentation

Relevant chapter of the report of the Economic and Social Council

Report of the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination (General Assembly resolutions 2106 A (XX) and 55/81)

Report of the Secretary-General on the status of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (General Assembly resolution 55/81)

Report of the Secretary-General on the financial situation of the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination (General Assembly resolution 55/81)

Item 13
Right of peoples to self-determination

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on the universal realization of the right of peoples to self-determination (A/C.3/56/L.32, para. 6)

Report of the Special Rapporteur on the use of mercenaries to undermine the right of peoples to self-determination (A/C.3/56/L.31, para. 16)

Item 14
Human rights questions

(a) Implementation of human rights instruments

Documentation

Relevant chapter of the report of the Economic and Social Council

Report of the Human Rights Committee (General Assembly resolution 2200 A (XXI))

Report of the Secretary-General on the effective implementation of international instruments on human rights, including reporting obligations under international instruments on human rights (General Assembly resolutions 53/138 and 55/90, para. 27)

Reports of meetings of persons chairing United Nations human rights treaty bodies (General Assembly resolution 55/90, para. 28)

Report of the Committee against Torture (General Assembly resolution 39/46, annex, article 24; and A/C.3/56/L.34, para. 32)

Note of the Secretary-General transmitting the interim report of the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on the question of torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment (A/C.3/56/L.34, para. 32)

Report of the Secretary-General on the operations of the United Nations Voluntary Fund for the Victims of Torture (A/C.3/56/L.34, para. 32)

Report of the Secretary-General on the status of the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (A/C.3/56/L.34, para. 31)

Report of the Secretary-General on the status of the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families (A/C.3/56/L.37, para. 7)

Report of the Secretary-General on the status of the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide (General Assembly resolution 260 A (III))

(b) Human rights questions, including alternative approaches for improving the effective enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on regional arrangements for the promotion and protection of human rights (General Assembly resolution 55/105)

Report of the Secretary-General on the question of enforced or involuntary disappearances (General Assembly resolution 55/103)

Report of the Secretary-General on strengthening the rule of law (General Assembly resolution 55/99)

Report of the Special Rapporteur on the situation worldwide in regard to extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions (General Assembly resolution 55/111)

Report of the Secretary-General on human rights and unilateral coercive measures (A/C.3/56/L.41, para. 8)

Strengthening of United Nations action in the field of human rights through the promotion of international cooperation and the importance of non-selectivity, impartiality and objectivity (A/C.3/56/L.46, para. 11)

Report of the Secretary-General on human rights and cultural diversity (A/C.3/56/L.49, para. 13)

Interim report by the Special Rapporteur on the right to food (A/C.3/56/L.48, para. 15)

Interim report by the Special Rapporteur on the elimination of all forms of religious intolerance (A/C.3/56/L.51, para. 17)

Report of the Secretary-General on the situation of human rights in Myanmar (A/C.3/56/L.55, para. 27)

Report of the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (A/C.3/56/L.56, para. 5 (a))

Report of the Secretary-General on globalization and its impact on the full enjoyment of all human rights (A/C.3/56/L.64, para. 9)

Report of the High Commissioner for Human Rights on the United Nations Decade for Human Rights Education (A/C.3/56/L.66, para. 23)

Report of the Secretary-General on comprehensive and integral international conventions to promote and protect the rights and dignity of persons with disabilities (A/C.3/56/L.67, para. 8)

Report of the Secretary-General on the protection of migrants (A/C.3/56/L.71, para. 16)

Report of the Secretary-General on the subregional centre of human rights and democracy in central Africa (A/C.3/56/L.69, para. 4)

Report of the Secretary-General on the situation of human rights in Cambodia (A/C.3/56/L.68, para. 29)

Questions for consideration for which no advance documentation has been requested

Declaration on the Right and Responsibility of Individuals, Groups and Organs of Society to Promote and Protect Universally Recognized Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms (A/C.3/56/L.62)

Situation of human rights in the Sudan (A/C.3/56/L.58)

Situation of human rights in Iraq (A/C.3/56/L.57)

Situation of human rights in the Islamic Republic of Iran (A/C.3/56/L.50)

Human rights and extreme poverty (General Assembly resolution 55/106)

Enhancement of international cooperation in the field of human rights (A/C.3/56/L.42)

Respect for the right to universal freedom of travel and the vital importance of family reunification (General Assembly resolution 55/100)

Right to development (A/C.3/56/L.43)

Promotion of a democratic and equitable international order (2002) (A/C.3/56/L.44)

Respect for the purposes and principles contained in the Charter of the United Nations to achieve international cooperation in promoting and encouraging respect for human rights and for fundamental freedoms and in solving international problems of humanitarian character (A/C.3/56/L.45)

(c) Human rights situations and reports of special rapporteurs and representatives

(d) Comprehensive implementation of and follow-up to the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action

Documentation

Comprehensive implementation of and follow-up to the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action (General Assembly resolution 48/121)

(e) Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights

Documentation

Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (General Assembly resolution 48/141)[a]

2003[b]

Item 1
Report of the Economic and Social Council

Matters calling for action by the General Assembly (Third Committee) or brought to its attention

Documentation

Relevant chapters of the report of the Economic and Social Council on questions that do not fall within the purview of the other items on the agenda of the General Assembly allocated to the Third Committee

[b] The programme of work and documentation for 2003 will be revised in the light of the relevant decisions taken by the Economic and Social Council in 2002.

Item 2
Social development, including questions relating to the world social situation and to youth, disabled persons and the family

Documentation

Relevant chapter of the report of the Economic and Social Council

Report of the Secretary-General on the world social situation, 2003[a]

Report of the Secretary-General on cooperatives in social development (A/C.3/56/L.8/Rev.1, para. 8)[a]

Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the World Programme of Action concerning Disabled Persons (A/C.3/56/L.9, para. 16)[a]

Report of the Secretary-General on policies and programmes involving youth (A/C.3/56/L.12/Rev.1, paras. 11 and 22)

Item 3
Follow-up to the International Year of Older Persons: Second World Assembly on Ageing

Item 4
Crime prevention and criminal justice

Documentation

Relevant chapter of the report of the Economic and Social Council

Item 5
International drug control

Documentation

Relevant chapter of the report of the Economic and Social Council

Item 6
Advancement of women

Documentation

Relevant chapter of the report of the Economic and Social Council

Report of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (General Assembly resolution 34/180)[a]

Report of the Secretary-General on the status of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (General Assembly resolution 45/124)

Report of the Secretary-General on violence against women migrant workers (A/C.3/56/L.27, para. 17)

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme on the activities of the United Nations Development Fund for Women (General Assembly resolution 39/125)

Report of the Secretary-General on the improvement of the situation of women in rural areas (A/C.3/56/L.24/Rev.1, para. 10)

Report of the Secretary-General on traditional or customary practices affecting the health of women and girls (A/C.3/56/L.23, para. 5 (b))

Item 7
Implementation of the outcome of the Fourth World Conference on Women and of the special session of the General Assembly entitled "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century"

Documentation

Relevant chapter of the report of the Economic and Social Council

Report of the Secretary-General on the follow-up to and progress made in the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the outcome of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly (General Assembly resolutions 50/203 and 55/71)[a]

Item 8
Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, questions relating to refugees, returnees and displaced persons and humanitarian questions

Documentation

Relevant chapter of the report of the Economic and Social Council

Follow-up to the Regional Conference to Address the Problems of Refugees, Displaced Persons, Other Forms of Involuntary Displacement and Returnees in the Countries of the Commonwealth of Independent States and Relevant Neighbouring States (A/C.3/56/L.70, para. 13)

Report of the Secretary-General on assistance to unaccompanied refugee minors (A/C.3/56/L.73, para. 12)

Item 9
Promotion and protection of the rights of children

Item 10
Programme of activities of the International Decade of the World's Indigenous People

Documentation

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights on the implementation of the programme of activities for the Decade (General Assembly resolution 55/80, para. 4 (c))

United Nations Voluntary Fund for Indigenous People

Item 11
Elimination of racism and racial discrimination

Documentation

Relevant chapter of the report of the Economic and Social Council

Report of the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination (article 9 of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (General Assembly resolution 2016 A (X)))

Item 12
Right of peoples to self-determination

Item 13
Human rights questions

(a) Implementation of human rights instruments

Documentation

Relevant chapter of the report of the Economic and Social Council

Report of the Human Rights Committee (General Assembly resolution 39/46, annex, article 24)

Report of the Secretary-General on the status of the International Covenants on Human Rights (A/C.3/56/L.36, para. 29)

Report of the Committee against Torture (General Assembly resolution 39/46, annex, article 24)

(b) Human rights questions, including alternative approaches for improving the effective enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on national institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights (A/C.3/56/L.52)

Report of the Secretary-General on strengthening the role of the United Nations in enhancing the effectiveness of the principle of periodic and genuine elections and the promotion of democratization (A/C.3/56/L.53, para. 13)

Report of the Secretary-General on human rights and terrorism (A/C.3/56/L.59, para. 11)

Report of the Secretary-General on the effective promotion of the Declaration on the Rights of Persons Belonging to National or Ethnic, Religious and Linguistic Minorities (A/C.3/56/L.61, para. 16)

Report by the representative of the Secretary-General on protection and assistance to internally displaced persons (A/C.3/56/L.63, para. 18)

Report of the Secretary-General on human rights and mass exoduses (A/C.3/56/L.65, para. 13)

Questions for consideration for which no advance documentation has been requested

Respect for the principles of national sovereignty and non-interference in the internal affairs of States in their electoral processes (A/C.3/56/L.47)

Human rights in the administration of justice (A/C.3/56/L.60)

(c) Human rights situations and reports of special rapporteurs and representatives

(d) Comprehensive implementation of and follow-up to the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action

(e) Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights

Documentation

Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights

United Nations A/C.3/56/L.76

General Assembly

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Fifty-sixth session
Third Committee
Agenda item 112
Advancement of women

Critical situation of the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women

Programme budget implications of draft resolution A/C.3/56/L.20/Rev.1

Statement submitted by the Secretary-General in accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly

Summary

By draft resolution A/C.3/56/L.20/Rev.1, the General Assembly would decide: (a) to establish a working group to recommend measures to be implemented to bring about the long-term sustainability and the future development of the United Nations International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women; and (b) to provide the Institute with the necessary financial support for the continuity of its core operations in a productive and cost-effective manner.

The establishment of the working group would require $96,000 to provide support for its activities. If the General Assembly decides to provide the Institute with financial support for the continuity of its core operations, this could be done only through the provision of additional funds of $600,000 annually under the regular budget of the United Nations. The fashion in which this assistance could be provided would be decided by the Fifth Committee in the context of its consideration of the programme budget for the biennium 2002-2003.

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1. Under the terms of operative paragraph 4 of draft resolution A/C.3/56/L.20/Rev.1, the General Assembly would decide to establish a working group with two governmental representatives from each of the five regional groups and one representative of the host country. The mandate of the working group would be to recommend to the General Assembly, at its fifty-seventh session, through the Economic and Social Council at its substantive session of 2002, measures to be implemented to bring about the long-term sustainability and the future development of the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women, and in the meantime to provide the Institute with the necessary financial support for the continuity of its core operations in a productive and cost-effective manner.

2. As regards the establishment of the working group, it is assumed that the group would carry out its activities during the first six months of 2002 until the beginning of the 2002 substantive session of the Economic and Social Council in July-2002, and that the members of the group would be representatives of the permanent missions to the United Nations in New York. It is estimated, on this basis, that additional general temporary assistance resources to provide secretariat support to the working group in the amount of $96,000, comprising six work-months of Professional staff at the P-4 level ($67,000) and six work-months of the General Service staff ($29,000), would be required under section 9, Economic and social affairs, of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2002-2003. In addition, it is estimated that $22,300 would be required under section 32, Staff assessment, to be offset by the same amount under income section 1, Income from staff assessment.

3. As regards the resources to provide the Institute with the necessary financial support for the continuity of its core operations, it is estimated that the available voluntary contributions would be insufficient for that purpose and that the additional provision of regular budget resources in the amount of $600,000 would be required under section 9, Economic and social affairs, of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2002-2003.

4. It is recalled that the General Assembly, in its resolution 55/219 of 23 December 2000, decided, in view of the difficult financial situation of the Institute, to provide it with financial assistance on a non-recurrent basis and, by its decision 55/457 of 23 December 2000, decided to advance the Institute up to $800,000 for 2001 pending receipt of voluntary contributions on a one-time exceptional and emergency basis. By the same decision, the General Assembly also decided that, if voluntary contributions were insufficient to meet the Institute's requirements for 2001, that advance, less voluntary contributions received, would be considered a one-time only subvention and that the resources utilized under the terms of the subvention would be reported in the context of the second performance report on the programme budget for the biennium 2000-2001.

5. In 2001, the financial situation of the Institute remained precarious. While voluntary contributions amounted to $523,980 in 2000, only $299,767 was received as at 31 October 2001. However, owing to the fact that the post of Director was vacant for several periods of time during 2000 and 2001, and owing to a number of savings measures, actual expenditure during 2000 and 2001 (nearly $750,000 annually), was below budgeted levels. It is estimated that the balance of the Institute's Trust Fund, as at 31 December 2001, would amount to approximately $60,000, in addition to a reserve of $200,000 which has been set aside to cover final expenditures and liabilities in the event that the Institute has to be closed down. It is

also estimated that, as voluntary contributions received were sufficient to meet the Institute's requirements for 2001, the one-time subvention of $800,000 would have to be surrendered in the context of the second performance report on the programme budget for the biennium 2000-2001 unless the General Assembly were to decide otherwise.

6. It is also recalled that, in its resolution 2001/40, the Economic and Social Council recommended that the General Assembly consider transferring to the Institute any balance remaining of the sum of $800,000 advanced for 2001 by the General Assembly as a reserve for 2002.

7. Under operative paragraph 4 of draft resolution A/C.3/56/L.20/Rev.1, the General Assembly would decide to provide the Institute with the necessary financial support for the continuity of its core operations in a productive and cost-effective manner. It is estimated that, in 2002, the expenditure of the Institute would be at a level comparable with that experienced in 2000-2001, that is, nearly $750,000 per year, and that the flow of voluntary contributions would further decrease in 2002, approximating $100,000, and that therefore an additional provision of $650,000 from the regular budget would be required to continue the operations of the Institute in 2002.

8. In summary, should the General Assembly adopt draft resolution A/C.3/56/L.20/Rev.1, it is estimated that an additional provision of $746,000 would be required under section 9, Economic and social affairs, of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2002-2003. Furthermore, an amount of $22,300 would be required under section 32, Staff assessment, to be offset by the same amount under income section 1, Income from staff assessment.

9. As to the fashion in which this assistance would be provided, it is the intention of the Secretary-General to bring this question to the attention of the Fifth Committee in the context of its review of the programme budget for the biennium 2000-2001 and the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2002-2003.

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General Assembly

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Fifty-sixth session
Third Committee
Agenda item 118
Right of peoples to self-determination

Use of mercenaries as a means of violating human rights and impeding the exercise of the right of peoples to self-determination

Programme budget implications of draft resolution A/C.3/56/L.31

Statement submitted by the Secretary-General in accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly

I. Requests contained in the draft resolution

1. Under the terms of operative paragraph 10 of draft resolution A/C.3/56/L.31, the General Assembly would request the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to convene, before the fifty-ninth session of the Commission on Human Rights, a second expert meeting, pursuant to General Assembly resolution 54/151 of 17 December 1999, to continue studying and updating the international legislation and to make recommendations for a clearer legal definition of mercenaries that would make more efficient the prevention and punishment of mercenary activities.

II. Relationship of the proposed request to the medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005 and to the proposed programme of work for the biennium 2002-2003

2. The activities referred to above are associated with subprogramme 3, Advisory services, technical cooperation, support to human rights fact-finding procedures and field activities, of programme 19, Human rights, of the medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005 and to the same subprogramme of section 22, Human rights, of the programme budget for the biennium 2002-2003.

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III. Activities by which the requests would be implemented

3. Should the General Assembly adopt the draft resolution, an expert meeting would be convened by the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights at Geneva in 2002 for a period of five working days. A total of 10 academic experts would be invited to the meeting.

IV. Modification required in the programme of work for 2002-2003

4. The narrative of section 22 of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2002-2003 would be modified as shown below. Subject to the decision of the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session, this narrative will be incorporated into the final version of the programme of work of section 22 of the programme budget for the biennium 2002-2003.

Paragraph 22.44 (a)

Add: (v) Expert meeting to study the international legislation in force and to make recommendations for a clearer legal definition of mercenaries that would make more efficient the prevention and punishment of mercenaries activities.

Paragraph 22.44 (b) (i)

Add: One study on the international legislation in force, including recommendations for a clearer legal definition of mercenaries.

V. Indication of additional requirements

5. The implementation of the requests contained in the draft resolution would entail the following requirements for the biennium 2002-2003:

Additional requirements		*United States dollars*
Section 22, Human rights		
General temporary assistance		
6 weeks at P-3 level	11 000	
6 weeks at General Service level	8 600	
Ad hoc expert group		
10 academic experts from different regions (Travel and daily subsistence allowance)	44 500	
Total section 22		**64 100**
Section 2, General Assembly affairs and conference services		
Meeting services, 10 pre-session documents, 5 in-session documents, 5 post-session documents and other requirements		**154 200**

6. No provision has been made under the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2002-2003 in relation to the second expert meeting. At this stage, it is not anticipated that these requirements could be absorbed within the existing resources under section 22, Human rights, of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2002-2003.

7. In connection with conference-servicing requirements, the extent to which the Organization's permanent capacity would need to be supplemented by temporary assistance resources can be determined only in the light of the calendar of conferences for 2002-2003. However, provisions are included under section 2, General Assembly affairs and conference services of the proposed programme budget for 2002-2003 not only for meetings programmed at the time of the budget preparation but also for meetings that would be authorized subsequently, provided that the number and distribution of meetings and conferences are consistent with the pattern of meetings in past years. As a result, no additional appropriation would be required under that section.

VI. Contingency fund

8. It will be recalled that under the procedure established by the General Assembly in its resolution 41/213 of 19 December 1986, a contingency fund is established each biennium to accommodate additional expenditures derived from the legislative mandates not provided for in the approved programme budget. Under the same procedure, if additional expenditures proposed exceed resources available from the contingency fund, these activities can be implemented only through the redeployment of resources available from low-priority areas or the modification of existing activities.

9. Should it not prove possible to meet the cost required from the contingency fund, the activities and outputs to be carried out under section 22 foreseen for the biennium 2002-2003 would have to be further reprogrammed and modified beyond the proposals included in the present statement.

VII. Summary

10. Should the General Assembly adopt draft resolution A/C.3/56/L.31, that decision would give rise to additional requirements of $64,100 for the biennium 2002-2003 under section 22, Human rights.

11. It is not possible at this stage to identify activities within section 22 of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2002-2003 that could be terminated, deferred, curtailed or modified during the biennium.

12. Consequently, an additional provision of $64,100 would be required over and above the resources proposed under section 22, Human rights, in the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2002-2003. This provision would represent a charge against the contingency fund and, as such, would require an increase in appropriations for the biennium 2002-2003.

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Fifty-sixth session
Third Committee
Agenda item 119 (c)
Human rights questions: human rights situations and reports of special rapporteurs and representatives

Situation of human rights in Myanmar

Programme budget implications of draft resolution A/C.3/56/L.55

Statement submitted by the Secretary-General in accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly

A. Requests contained in the draft resolution

1. Under the terms of operative paragraph 3 of draft resolution A/C.3/56/L.55, the General Assembly would welcome the report of the Secretary-General on the visit to the country of his Special Envoy for Myanmar (A/56/505), strongly endorse his efforts to help facilitate the national reconciliation process among all the interested parties in Myanmar, and encourage the Government of Myanmar to establish a constructive and regular dialogue with the Secretary-General in order to make better use of his good offices.

B. Activities by which the request would be implemented

2. In his report to the General Assembly, the Secretary-General, inter alia, called upon the international community to continue to respond to further progress in the reconciliation process in Myanmar, and indicated that the United Nations remained committed to assisting the people of Myanmar to achieve the progress and social viability in a democratic framework (A/56/505, para. 12). He also indicated that he would continue to do his utmost to assist the process of national reconciliation in Myanmar. The Secretary-General considers the role of facilitating the dialogue towards the national reconciliation in Myanmar as being one, which could be carried out effectively through his good offices.

3. Consistent with the strong endorsement contained in operative paragraph 3 of draft resolution A/C.3/56/L.55, the efforts of the Secretary-General would be continued in 2002 in order to build upon the progress made so far and to facilitate

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further dialogue among all interested parties in Myanmar and for national reconciliation. Those efforts would be carried out as part of the activities of his good offices through the Special Envoy of the Secretary-General for Myanmar, and would include contacts and consultations with various interested parties in Myanmar. Exchanges of views with representatives of ethnic nationalities, the diplomatic corps, the United Nations country team and international non-governmental organizations in Myanmar would also be continued. Reports on progress would be prepared periodically.

C. Estimated resource requirements

4. The estimated cost of continuing the efforts of the good offices of the Secretary-General through his Special Envoy for Myanmar for a one-year period from 1 January to 31 December 2002 amounts to $277,900 (see annex). This includes the provision of salary for the Special Envoy for Myanmar on a when-actually-employed basis; his travel to Myanmar, to neighbouring countries in the region, Europe and North America, including United Nations Headquarters; and miscellaneous services in support of his mission. Substantive and administrative support to the Special Envoy would be provided by the Department of Political Affairs within its overall level of resources requested in the proposed programme budget for 2002-2003.

D. Action required by the General Assembly

5. Should the General Assembly adopt draft resolution A/C.3/56/L.55, provisions in the amount of $277,900 would be required for the period from 1 January to 31 December 2002 for the efforts of the good offices of the Secretary-General relating to the facilitation of the process of dialogue and national reconciliation in Myanmar.

6. These requirements would be charged against the provision of $93,691,600 for special political missions proposed for special political missions under section 3, Political affairs, of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2002-2003 (A/56/6 (Sect.3)).

Annex

Personnel costs

1. A provision of $154,100 is required for the salaries of the Special Envoy of the Secretary-General (Under-Secretary-General level) for a maximum of 270 days in 2002 at rates applicable to individuals engaged on a when-actually-employed basis.

Travel

2. Provision amounting to $122,000 is also required for the travel of the Special Envoy to Myanmar, neighbouring countries within the region, Europe and North America. Requirements for travel include airfare, daily subsistence allowance and terminal expenses for an estimated 26 trips, with each trip lasting, in average, two days.

Operating costs

3. Requirements for miscellaneous services, including telephone calls, facsimile charges and other miscellaneous services are estimated at $1,800.

United Nations A/C.3/56/L.79

General Assembly

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Fifty-sixth session
Third Committee
Agenda item 12
Report of the Economic and Social Council

Draft decision submitted by the Chairman

Resumed session of the Third Committee

The General Assembly decides that the Third Committee shall hold meetings in 2002, during the resumed fifty-sixth session of the Assembly, in order to consider agenda item 117, Elimination of racism and racial discrimination, the dates for which will be determined in consultation with the Secretariat, as soon as possible following the issuance of the report of the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance.

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United Nations A/C.3/56/L.80

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Fifty-sixth session
Third Committee
Agenda item 113
Implementation of the outcome of the Fourth World Conference on Women and of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly, entitled "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century"

Draft resolution submitted by the Chairman on the basis of informal consultations

Follow-up to the Fourth World Conference on Women and full implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the outcome of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 50/203 of 22 December 1995, 51/69 of 12 December 1996, 52/100 of 12 December 1997, 53/120 of 9 December 1998, 54/141 of 17 December 1999 and 55/71 of 4 December 2000,

Welcoming the outcome of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly, entitled "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century",[1] [2] and stressing the importance of its outcome, which has assessed the implementation of the Beijing Declaration[3] and Platform for Action,[4] identified obstacles and challenges thereto and proposed actions and initiatives to overcome them and achieve full and accelerated implementation,

Deeply convinced that the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the outcome of the twenty-third special session are important contributions to the advancement of women worldwide in the achievement of gender equality and must

[1] Resolution S-23/2, annex.
[2] Resolution S-23/3, annex.
[3] *Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4-15 September 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annex I.
[4] Ibid., annex II.

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be translated into effective action by all States, the United Nations system and other organizations concerned, as well as by non-governmental organizations,

Stressing the importance of strong, sustained political will and commitment at the national, regional and international levels in order to achieve full and accelerated implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the outcome of the twenty-third special session,

Recognizing that the responsibility for the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the outcome of the twenty-third special session rests primarily at the national level and that strengthened efforts are necessary in this respect, and reiterating that enhanced international cooperation is essential for the effective implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the outcome of the twenty-third special session,

Welcoming the increased integration of a gender perspective in the work of the United Nations, in particular in the outcomes of major United Nations conferences, special sessions, summit conferences and their follow-up processes,

Welcoming the integration of a gender perspective in the outcome of the twenty-sixth special session of the General Assembly on the human immunodeficiency virus/acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (HIV/AIDS) held in New York from 25 to 27 June 2001,[5] in particular the emphasis on the gender dimensions of the epidemic, and the recognition that gender equality and the empowerment of women are fundamental elements in the reduction of the vulnerability of women and girls, who are disproportionately affected by HIV/AIDS,

Also welcoming the integration of a gender perspective in the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance, held in Durban, South Africa, from 31 August to 7 September 2001, which recognized, inter alia, the multiple forms of discrimination faced by women and the need to apply a gender perspective in measures to eradicate racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance,

Emphasizing the importance of the decision by the Economic and Social Council, in its resolution 2001/41 of 26 July 2001, to devote one of its substantive sessions, before 2005, to the review and appraisal of the system-wide implementation of agreed conclusions 1997/2 adopted by the Council on 18 July 1997,[6] on mainstreaming a gender perspective into all policies and programmes in the United Nations system,

Welcoming the declaration adopted at the Economic and Social Council high-level segment of 2001 on the role of the United Nations system in support of the efforts of African countries to achieve sustainable development,[7] which recognizes, inter alia, the need to promote the role of women in social and economic development, including by assuring their participation in political and economic life,

Reaffirming the primary and essential role of the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council in promoting the advancement of women and gender

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[5] Resolution S-26/2, annex.

[6] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-second Session, Supplement No. 3* (A/52/3/Rev.1), chap. IV, para. 4.

[7] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 3* (A/56/3/Rev.1), chap. III.

equality, while noting the importance of the open debate held in the Security Council on 24 October 2000, entitled "Women, peace and security", and its outcome,

Welcoming the adoption of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the protocols thereto,[8]

1. *Reaffirms* the goals, objectives and commitments contained in the Beijing Declaration[3] and Platform for Action[4] and also in the "Political Declaration"[1] and "Further actions and initiatives to implement the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action",[2] adopted by the General Assembly at its twenty-third special session;

2. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Secretary-General on the follow-up to and progress made in the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the outcome of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly;[9]

3. *Calls upon* Governments, the relevant entities of the United Nations system within their respective mandates and all other relevant actors of civil society, including non-governmental organizations, to take effective action to achieve full and effective implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the outcome of the twenty-third special session, as elaborated in the above-mentioned documents;

4. *Calls upon* Governments, in collaboration with relevant actors of civil society, including non-governmental organizations, to continue to facilitate the translation and dissemination of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the outcome of the twenty-third special session, as broadly and as accessibly as possible;

5. *Strongly encourages* Governments to continue to support the role and contribution of civil society, in particular non-governmental organizations and women's organizations, in the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the outcome of the twenty-third special session;

6. *Welcomes* the integration of a gender perspective in the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[10] and emphasizes the importance of mainstreaming a gender perspective in the implementation of and follow-up to the Millennium Declaration and in future reports on this subject;

7. *Reaffirms* its decision that the General Assembly, the Economic and Social Council and the Commission on the Status of Women, in accordance with their respective mandates and with General Assembly resolution 48/162 of 20 December 1993 and other relevant resolutions, constitute a three-tiered intergovernmental mechanism that plays the primary role in the overall policy-making and follow-up and in coordinating the implementation and monitoring of the Beijing Platform for Action and the outcome of the twenty-third special session;

8. *Reaffirms* that the follow-up to the Fourth World Conference on Women and the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly will be undertaken within the framework of an integrated and coordinated follow-up to major

[8] Resolution 55/25, annex.
[9] A/56/319.
[10] Resolution 55/2.

international conferences and summits in the economic, social and related fields, and, in this regard, takes note of Economic and Social Council resolution 2001/21 of 26 July 2001, on integrated and coordinated implementation of and follow-up to major United Nations conferences and summits;

9. *Requests* the Economic and Social Council to further intensify its efforts to ensure that gender mainstreaming is an integral part of all United Nations activities, building upon agreed conclusions 1997/2 adopted by the Economic and Social Council on 18 July 1997;[6]

10. *Invites* the Council to continue to further policy coordination and inter-agency cooperation towards the achievement of the objectives of the Beijing Platform for Action and the outcome of the twenty-third special session, including by considering the dedication of specific segments of the Council to the advancement of women and implementation of the above-mentioned documents and by mainstreaming a gender perspective in all its work;

11. *Encourages* the Council to request the regional commissions, within their respective mandates and resources, to intensify efforts to build up a database, to be updated regularly, in which all programmes and projects carried out in their respective regions by agencies or organizations of the United Nations system are listed, and to facilitate their dissemination, as well as the evaluation of their impact on the empowerment of women through the implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action;

12. *Reaffirms* that the Commission on the Status of Women has a central role in assisting the Council in monitoring, assessing progress made in and accelerating, within the United Nations system, the implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action and the outcome of the twenty-third special session, and in advising the Council thereon, encourages the Commission, in this regard, to further enhance its working methods in order to improve the effectiveness of its work and its catalytic role in ensuring the integration of a gender perspective in United Nations activities, taking into consideration the adoption by the Economic and Social Council of the multi-year programme of work of the Commission on the Status of Women (2002-2006), and calls on the Commission, and all involved, to implement the programme of work;

13. *Recognizes* the importance attached to the regional and subregional monitoring of the global and regional platforms for action and of the implementation of the outcome of the twenty-third special session by regional commissions and other regional or subregional structures, within their mandates, in consultation with Governments, and calls for the promotion of further cooperation in that respect among Governments and, where appropriate, national machineries of the same region;

14. *Reaffirms* that, in order to implement the Beijing Platform for Action and the outcome of the twenty-third special session, adequate mobilization of resources at the national and international levels, as well as new and additional resources for the developing countries, in particular those in Africa and the least developed countries, from all available funding mechanisms, including multilateral, bilateral and private sources, will also be required;

15. *Recognizes* that the implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action and the outcome of the twenty-third special session in the countries with economies

in transition requires continued national efforts and international cooperation and assistance;

16. *Reaffirms* that, in order to implement the Beijing Platform for Action and the outcome of the twenty-third special session, a reformulation of policies and reallocation of resources may be needed, but that some policy changes may not necessarily have financial implications;

17. *Recognizes* that the creation of an enabling environment at the national and international levels, including through the full participation of women at all levels of decision-making, is necessary to ensure the full participation of women in economic activities, and calls upon States to remove obstacles to the full implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action as well as the outcome document of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly;

18. *Reaffirms* that, in order to ensure the effective implementation of the strategic objectives of the Beijing Platform for Action and the outcome of the twenty-third special session, the United Nations system should promote an active and visible policy of mainstreaming a gender perspective, including through the work of the Special Adviser on Gender Issues and Advancement of Women and the maintenance of gender units and focal points;

19. *Also reaffirms* that United Nations bodies that focus on gender issues, such as the United Nations Population Fund, the United Nations Development Fund for Women and the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women, have an important role to play in the implementation of the objectives of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the outcome of the twenty-third special session;

20. *Welcomes* the convening, in 2002, of the International Conference on Financing for Development, to be held in Monterrey, Mexico, the World Summit on Sustainable Development, to be held in Johannesburg, South Africa, the Second World Assembly on Ageing, to be held in Madrid, and the special session of the General Assembly on children, and urges Governments to integrate a gender perspective in their respective processes and outcome documents;

21. *Appreciates* the efforts made by all relevant organs of the United Nations system in promoting the role of women in conflict prevention and resolution;

22. *Recognizes* the important role of women in the prevention and resolution of conflicts and in peace-building, the importance of their equal participation and full involvement in all efforts for the maintenance and promotion of peace and security and the need to increase their role in decision-making with regard to conflict prevention and resolution, and urges the United Nations system and Governments to make further efforts in this regard and to take steps to ensure and support the full participation of women at all levels of decision-making and implementation in development activities and peace processes, including conflict prevention and resolution, post-conflict reconstruction, peacemaking, peacekeeping and peace-building, as well as through the integration of a gender perspective into those United Nations processes;

23. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that all United Nations personnel and officials at Headquarters and in the field, especially in field operations, receive training so that they mainstream a gender perspective in their

work, including gender impact analysis, and to ensure appropriate follow-up to such training;

24. *Requests* all bodies that deal with programme and budgetary matters, including the Committee for Programme and Coordination, to ensure that all programmes, medium-term plans and programme budgets visibly mainstream a gender perspective;

25. *Invites* States parties to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women to include information on measures taken to implement the outcome of the twenty-third special session, as well as the Beijing Platform for Action, in their reports to the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women under article 18 of the Convention;

26. *Welcomes* the entry into force of the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women,[11] and urges State Parties to the Convention that have not yet done so to consider signing, ratifying, acceding to the Optional Protocol;

27. *Urges* Member States to consider signing, ratifying or acceding to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime[8] and the protocols thereto,[12] [13] in particular the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, especially Women and Children;

28. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to disseminate the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the outcome of the twenty-third special session as widely as possible in all official languages of the United Nations;

29. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to report annually to the General Assembly, the Economic and Social Council and the Commission on the Status of Women on follow-up to and progress in the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the outcome of the twenty-third special session, including assessment of progress made on mainstreaming a gender perspective within the United Nations system, including by providing information on key achievements, lessons learned and best practices, and to recommend further actions and strategies for future actions within the United Nations system;

30. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-seventh session an item entitled "Implementation of the outcome of the Fourth World Conference on Women and of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly, entitled 'Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century'".

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[11] Resolution 54/4, annex.

[12] The Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, especially Women and Children; the Protocol against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea and Air; and the Protocol against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, Their Parts and Components and Ammunition.

[13] Resolution 55/255, annex.

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Fifty-sixth session
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Agenda item 119 (b)
Human rights questions: human rights questions, including alternative approaches for improving the effective enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms

Subregional Centre for Human Rights and Democracy in Central Africa

Programme budget implications of draft resolution A/C.3/56/L.69

Statement submitted by the Secretary-General in accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly

A. Requests contained in the draft resolution

1. Under the terms of operative paragraph 3 of draft resolution A/C.3/56/L.69, the General Assembly would invite the Secretary-General and the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to take all necessary measures to ensure the smooth functioning of the Subregional Centre for Human Rights and Democracy in Central Africa in accordance with section III of its resolution 55/234 of 23 December 2000.

2. It is recalled that the Committee on Programme and Coordination, in paragraph 267 of the report on its forty-first session,[1] recommended that in the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2002-2003, resources be allocated to the Centre in accordance with the recommendations contained in paragraph 70 (a), part II, of the Committee's report on its fortieth session,[2] adopted by the General Assembly.

3. It is also recalled that, in paragraph 138 of its resolution 54/249 of 23 December 1999, the General Assembly requested the Secretary-General to provide the Centre with adequate financial resources, and in that regard decided to

[1] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 16* (A/56/16).

[2] Ibid., *Fifty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 16* (A/55/16). The Committee, in paragraph 70 (a), part II, recommended that the preliminary estimates should be adequate for the full implementation of all mandated programmes and activities, including the projects initiated in the biennium 2000-2001, according to legislative intent and in the most effective and economical manner.

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appropriate an amount of $1 million in the programme budget for the biennium 2000-2001. The appropriation was made under section 22, Human rights.

4. It will also be recalled that in paragraph 22.45 of document A/56/6 (Sect. 22), the Secretary-General stated that the non-inclusion of resources in the biennium 2002-2003 on the Centre was without prejudice to such needs as might be demonstrated in the context of the report on activities to establish the Centre, which would be presented to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session. The report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights on the activities that have been carried out as well as those envisioned in connection with establishment of the Centre[3] is before the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session.

B. Activities by which the proposed request would be implemented

5. Should the draft resolution be adopted, the Secretary-General and the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights would continue to lend their support to the smooth functioning of the Centre through the following activities to be carried out during the biennium 2002-2003:

A. Human rights activities

(a) Training:

(i) Human rights training session for political leaders, in the first semester of 2002;

(ii) Human rights training session for media practitioners, in the second semester of 2002;

(iii) Annual training course for civil servants and human rights defenders on international human rights mechanisms, to be held in June 2002 and June 2003.

(b) Advisory services and technical cooperation:

(i) Continuation of technical cooperation programme for the national human rights bodies;

(ii) Provision of advisory services and technical cooperation to Governments and non-governmental organizations, upon request;

(iii) Support for strengthening the activities of human rights non-governmental organizations and networks.

(c) Capacity-building in human rights and democracy:

(i) Implementation of a fellowship programme;

(ii) Development of a roster/resource bank of expertise in human rights and democracy in Central Africa, starting in January 2002.

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[3] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 36*, addendum (A/56/36/Add.1).

(d) External relations and partnerships:

(i) Signature and application of a memorandum of understanding with the Economic Community of Central African States through its general secretariat;

(ii) Development of partnerships with various national, African, and international organizations sharing the same goals as the Centre.

B. Activities related to democracy

The appointment of a programme officer on democracy would be required to handle the Centre's programme of activities on the subject of democracy. The terms of reference of this position would include the following activities:

(a) Research and compile relevant documentation on democratization, both within the United Nations and in the countries of the subregion, and on progress in the democratization process in those countries;

(b) Study and assess technical cooperation needs for the subregion's democratization process;

(c) Develop a programme of activities and technical cooperation projects for the countries of the subregion, in consultation with all interested parties;

(d) Prepare and execute a strategy to integrate human rights and democratic principles into the United Nations activities and programmes on conflict prevention in the subregion;

(e) Develop education and training programmes for the promotion of democratic principles and the human rights aspects of democracy to target groups, in particular government authorities, political parties, media and civil society;

(f) Provide assistance to Governments, upon request, for the preparation of elections, the development and execution of training programmes and policies in the field of election monitoring, in cooperation with other United Nations agencies, intergovernmental organizations, concerned bodies and non-governmental organizations;

(g) Provide advisory services and technical cooperation in the field of democracy to countries of the subregion, as requested by Governments, United Nations agencies, intergovernmental organizations and representatives of the Secretary-General in Central Africa;

(h) Assist, at the request of Governments, in the creation and/or strengthening of national institutions responsible for managing activities related to democracy in their countries (ombudsmen, national electoral commissions etc.);

(i) Develop and strengthen cooperation networks in the subregion, including identifying potential areas of cooperation in the field of democracy;

(j) Provide training during workshops and other similar activities in the subregion;

(k) Undertake representational and other missions in the subregion, on behalf of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and other entities of the Secretariat, as appropriate.

C. Modification required in the programme of work for the biennium 2002-2003

6. The narrative of section 22 of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2002-2003 would be modified as shown below. Subject to the decision of the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session, this narrative will be incorporated into the final version of the programme of work of section 22 of the programme budget for the biennium 2002-2003.

Outputs

Paragraph 22.44 (d) (i) After the word "Cambodia;", add the words "and strengthening of the Subregional Centre for Human Rights and Democracy in Central Africa, Yaoundé".

D. Indication of additional requirements

7. Should the General Assembly approve draft resolution A/C.3/56/L.69, the additional requirements for the implementation of the programme of work described above would amount to $1,000,000 to continue the present level of support as a subvention. The cost plan for allocation of the subvention would be as follows:

Additional requirements	*United States dollars*	
Positions to be funded:		
P-5 Head of Office	251 800[a]	
P-4 Programme Officer	211 600[a]	
P-3 Human Rights Officer	97 800[b]	
General Service (Administrative Assistant)	42 400[a]	
General Service (Documentalist)	42 400[a]	646 000
General Temporary Assistance (Driver/Messenger)		12 000
Consultants and experts:		
To provide expertise for (a) the preparation of training materials for four subregional workshops; (b) the development of a curriculum for the introduction of human rights in the courses of primary and secondary schools; and (c) the design of a programme for the development of national institutions for human rights in Central Africa		38 500
Travel of 25 participants to each of four subregional training workshops		147 800
Travel of staff:		
International travel	15 900	
Travels within subregion	17 400	33 300

Additional requirements	*United States dollars*	
Contractual services:		
External printing and binding of newsletter		10 000
General operating expenses:		
Rental and maintenance of office premises	43 200	
Rental of conference space for workshops	2 000	
Utilities	7 200	
Rental of local transportation for workshops	1 000	
Communication costs	12 000	
Maintenance of furniture and equipment	6 000	
Maintenance of office automation equipment	6 000	77 400
Supplies and materials:		
Stationery, office supplies etc.	6 000	
Library books and supplies	5 000	11 000
Fellowships		
Maintenance of office automation equipment		12 000
Joint administrative activities		12 000
Total		**1 000 000**

[a] Estimated at a vacancy rate of 95 per cent for the Professional and higher-level categories and 98 per cent for the General Service category, since these positions have been filled in 2000-2001.

[b] Estimated at a vacancy rate of 50 per cent in accordance with existing practice for new positions.

8. As mentioned above, no provision has been made under the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2002-2003 in relation to the Centre. At this stage, it is not anticipated that these requirements could be absorbed within the existing resources under section 22, Human rights, of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2002-2003.

E. Contingency fund

9. It will be recalled that under the procedure established by the General Assembly in its resolution 41/213 of 19 December 1986, a contingency fund is established each biennium to accommodate additional expenditures derived from the legislative mandates not provided for in the approved programme budget. Under the same procedure, if additional expenditures proposed exceed resources available from the contingency fund, these activities can be implemented only through the redeployment of resources available from low-priority areas or the modification of existing activities.

10. Should it not prove possible to meet the cost required from the contingency fund, the activities and outputs to be carried out under section 22 foreseen for the biennium 2002-2003 would have to be further reprogrammed and modified beyond the proposals included in the present statement.

F. Summary

11. In summary, should the General Assembly adopt draft resolution A/C.3/56/L.69, that decision would give rise to additional requirements for the biennium 2002-2003 under section 22, Human rights.

12. It is not possible at this stage to identify activities within section 22 of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2002-2003 that could be terminated, deferred, curtailed or modified during the biennium.

13. Consequently, an additional provision of $1,000,000 would be required over and above the resources proposed under section 22, Human rights, of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2002-2003. This provision would represent a charge against the contingency fund and, as such, would require an increase in appropriations for the biennium 2002-2003.

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Agenda item 119 (c)
Human rights questions: human rights situations and reports of special rapporteurs and representatives

Draft resolution submitted by the Chairman of the Third Committee on the basis of informal consultations

Question of human rights in Afghanistan

The General Assembly,

Guided by the Charter of the United Nations, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[1] the International Covenants on Human Rights[2] and accepted humanitarian rules, as set out in the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949[3] and the Additional Protocols thereto, of 1977,[4]

Reaffirming that all Member States have an obligation to promote and protect human rights and fundamental freedoms and to fulfil the obligations they have freely undertaken under the various international instruments,

Recalling that Afghanistan is a party to the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide,[5] the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,[2] the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,[2] the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment,[6] the Convention on the Rights of the Child,[7] the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War[8] and International Labour Organization Conventions 100 on equal remuneration and 105

[1] Resolution 217 A (III).
[2] Resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.
[3] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 75, Nos. 970-973.
[4] Ibid., vol. 1125, Nos. 17512 and 17513.
[5] Resolution 260 A (III).
[6] Resolution 39/46, annex.
[7] Resolution 44/25, annex.
[8] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 75, No. 973.

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on the abolition of forced labour and that it has signed the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women,[9]

Recalling also all its relevant resolutions, as well as the resolutions and presidential statements of the Security Council, the decisions of the Economic and Social Council, the resolutions and decisions of the Commission on Human Rights and the resolutions of the Commission on the Status of Women,

Recalling Security Council resolutions 1333 (2000) of 19 December 2000 and 1378 (2001) of 14 November 2001 on the situation in Afghanistan,

Recalling also Security Council resolutions 1296 (2000) of 19 April 2000 on the protection of civilians, 1379 (2001) of 20 November 2001 on children and armed conflict and 1325 (2000) of 31 October 2000 and the statement by the President of the Security Council of 31 October 2001[10] on women, peace and security,

Expressing grave concern about the appalling proportions of the humanitarian crisis affecting the country,

Warmly welcoming the appointment by the Secretary-General of a Special Representative for Afghanistan and endorsing the approach outlined by the Special Representative of the Secretary-General at the meeting of the Security Council on 13 November 2001,[11]

Affirming the essential role of the United Nations in supporting the efforts of the Afghan people to establish a new transitional administration leading to the formation of a Government, both of which:

(a) Should be broad-based, multi-ethnic and fully representative of all the Afghan people and committed to peace with the neighbours of Afghanistan;

(b) Should respect the human rights of all Afghan people, regardless of gender, ethnicity or religion;

(c) Should respect Afghanistan's international obligations, including by cooperating fully in international efforts to combat terrorism and illicit drug trafficking within and from Afghanistan;

(d) Should facilitate the urgent delivery of humanitarian assistance and the orderly return of refugees and internally displaced persons, when the situation permits;

Recognizing that the accountability of perpetrators, including their accomplices, of grave human rights violations is one of the central elements of any effective remedy for victims of human rights violations and a key factor in ensuring a fair and equitable justice system and, ultimately, reconciliation and stability within a State,

Stressing the importance of ensuring the full and effective participation of women in all decision-making processes regarding the future of Afghanistan,

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[9] Resolution 34/180, annex.
[10] S/PRST/2001/31.
[11] See S/PV.4414.

1. *Welcomes* the interim report of the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on the situation of human rights in Afghanistan[12] and the report of the Special Rapporteur on violence against women, its causes and consequences[13] on her mission to Afghanistan and the conclusions and recommendations contained therein;

2. *Strongly condemns*:

(a) The cases of summary execution committed by the Taliban at Yakawlang in January, May and June 2001;

(b) The widespread violations and abuses of human rights and international humanitarian law in Afghanistan, mainly by the Taliban, including the right to life, liberty and security of person, freedom from torture and from other forms of cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment, freedom of opinion, expression, religion, association and movement, and the recruitment and use of children in hostilities contrary to international standards;

(c) The civilian massacres involving reprisal killings and summary executions following, in recent years, the taking and retaking of particular areas by warring parties;

(d) The frequent Taliban practice of arbitrary arrest and detention and of summary trials, which have resulted in summary executions throughout the country;

(e) The gross violations of the human rights of women and girls, including all forms of discrimination against them, notably in areas under the control of the Taliban where findings of further gross violations of the human rights of women and girls include abductions and kidnappings, as well as accounts of many instances of forced marriage and of trafficking;

3. *Strongly condemns* the killings of foreign correspondents which occurred in Afghanistan in November 2001, reiterates its firm condemnation of the killings of Iranian diplomats and the correspondents of the Islamic Republic News Agency by the Taliban, as well as the attacks on and the killings of United Nations personnel in territories of Afghanistan at that moment under Taliban control, and calls upon all Afghan parties to cooperate in urgent investigations of those heinous crimes with a view to bringing to justice those responsible;

4. *Condemns* the Taliban authorities for allowing the continued use of Afghan territory for terrorist activities;

5. *Notes with deep concern* the existence of millions of Afghan refugees and their increased flow, while recognizing the huge burden shouldered by neighbouring countries, especially the Islamic Republic of Iran and Pakistan, and appreciating the efforts undertaken in these host countries to ease the plight of Afghan refugees;

6. *Underlines* the importance of the fulfilment of obligations under international law, including human rights law, with regard to asylum-seekers;

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[12] A/54/409 and Add.1.

[13] E/CN.4/2000/68/Add.4.

7. *Expresses its concern* at the large number of internally displaced persons in Afghanistan and their situation, and encourages efforts to meet their protection and assistance needs in Afghanistan;

8. *Supports* the early development of a comprehensive strategy aimed at ensuring respect for human rights and humanitarian law, which would, inter alia, provide for a smooth transition from humanitarian assistance to rehabilitation and long term sustainable development as well as for a durable solution for refugees and internally displaced persons, including their voluntary return in safety and with dignity, and calls upon the international community to provide additional assistance in this regard;

9. *Urges* all parties to work and cooperate fully with the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Afghanistan and the United Nations Special Mission to Afghanistan;

10. *Stresses* the need for national reconciliation and for the establishment of the rule of law, good governance and democracy in Afghanistan and, concurrently, the need for extensive rehabilitation and reconstruction;

11. *Strongly condemns* all acts of violence and intimidation against humanitarian personnel, and urges all Afghan parties to ensure the safety, security and free movement of all United Nations and associated personnel, as well as of the personnel of humanitarian organizations, their safe and unimpeded access to all affected populations and to guarantee the access of all Afghans to aid deliveries, education and health facilities without discrimination on any ground, including of gender, ethnicity or religion;

12. *Calls upon* all Afghan parties:

(a) To respect fully all human rights and fundamental freedoms without discrimination of any ground, including of gender, ethnicity or religion, in accordance with international law;

(b) To refrain from summary and arbitrary executions and from acts of reprisal and to adhere strictly to their obligations under human rights instruments and international humanitarian law;

(c) To reaffirm publicly their commitment to respect fully humanitarian law and international human rights standards and to take all measures to protect the civilian population;

(d) To refrain from the recruitment or use of children in hostilities contrary to international standards and to take all necessary measures for the demobilization and social reintegration of war-affected children;

(e) To facilitate the provision of efficient and effective remedies to the victims of grave violations and abuses of human rights and of international humanitarian law and to bring the perpetrators to justice in accordance with international standards;

(f) To fulfil their obligations and commitments regarding the safety and security of all personnel and premises of diplomatic missions, the United Nations and other international organizations and non-governmental organizations, as well as all humanitarian supplies in Afghanistan, and to cooperate, fully and without discrimination on any ground, including of gender, nationality or religion, with the

United Nations and associated bodies, as well as with other humanitarian organizations, agencies and non-governmental organizations;

(g) To treat all suspects and convicted or detained persons in accordance with relevant international law and to refrain from arbitrary detention in violation of international law;

13. *Calls upon* all Afghan parties to respect fully the equal human rights and fundamental freedoms of women and girls in accordance with international human rights law and, in particular, consistent with the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, to bring to an end without delay all violations of the human rights of women and girls and to take urgent measures to ensure:

(a) The repeal of any legislative and other measures in place that discriminate against women and girls and those that impede the realization of all their human rights;

(b) The full, equal and effective participation of women in civil, cultural, economic, political and social life throughout the country at all levels;

(c) Respect for the right of women to work and their reintegration into employment, including in the United Nations system and human rights organizations;

(d) The equal right of women and girls to education without discrimination, the reopening of schools and the admission of women and girls to all levels of education;

(e) Respect for the equal right of women and girls to security of person, and that those responsible for physical attacks on women be brought to justice;

(f) Respect for the freedom of movement of women and girls;

(g) Respect for the effective and equal access of women and girls to the facilities necessary to protect their right to the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health;

14. *Notes with appreciation* the activities carried out by the United Nations system, international and non-governmental organizations and the International Committee of the Red Cross throughout the territory of Afghanistan;

15. *Recalls* its invitation extended to the Secretary-General and the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to proceed without delay to investigate fully reports of summary executions and of rape and cruel treatment in Afghanistan, expresses deep regret for the lack of cooperation by Afghan parties which prevented effective investigations, and calls upon all parties to fulfil their stated commitment to cooperate with United Nations investigations;

16. *Invites* the relevant bodies of the United Nations to offer, as appropriate, advisory services and technical assistance in the area of human rights;

17. *Appeals* to Member States, organizations and programmes of the United Nations system, specialized agencies and other international organizations:

(a) To ensure that all United Nations operations integrate a gender perspective, including the selection of personnel for their management, and that women will benefit equally with men from such programmes;

(b) To implement the recommendations of the inter-agency gender mission in Afghanistan under the leadership of the Special Adviser to the Secretary-General on Gender Issues and Advancement of Women and to provide specific programmes for all Afghan women and girls to address their special needs and promote their human rights;

(c) To support structures of civil society active in the field of human rights, in particular women's rights;

18. *Calls upon* the Afghan parties to cooperate fully with the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Afghanistan and all other special rapporteurs who request invitations to visit Afghanistan, and to facilitate their access to all sectors of society and to all parts of the country;

19. *Requests*:

(a) The Secretary-General to give all necessary assistance to the Special Rapporteur;

(b) The Secretary-General, in consultation with the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, to ensure the integration of a human rights capacity in the context of United Nations activities in Afghanistan;

20. *Invites* the Special Rapporteur to provide updates, as appropriate, of his reports on the situation of human rights in Afghanistan to the General Assembly and the Commission on Human Rights;

21. *Decides* to keep the situation of human rights in Afghanistan under consideration at its fifty-seventh session, in the light of additional elements provided by the Commission on Human Rights and the Economic and Social Council.